

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: Broxted Parish Council  
County area (local councils and Essex

Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all Blue highlighted boxes

Next, please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following that will be flagged in the green boxes where relevant:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- New from 2020/21 onwards: variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;

	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input, DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	9,982	17,009				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	20,250	20,250	0	0.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	173	3,415	3,242	1873.99%	YES		2023-24 bank interest was £103 but was £444 in 24-25. A VAT refund of £2,900, which included a claim for £2,229 made as sole trustee on behalf of the village hall charity trust, accounts for most of the difference in receipts for 24-25. The £2,229 VAT recovered for the hall charity was paid to it during the year. See below for payments variance resulting from this.
4 Staff Costs	5,761	5,805	44	0.76%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	7,635	15,474	7,839	102.67%	YES		Most categories of payment remained similar between 2023-24 and 2024-25 except for: tree surgery which cost £1,175 in 2024 but nil in 2025; purchases of £11.52 in 2023-24 and £313.04 in 2025; professional fees of nil in 2023-24 and £585 in 2024-25; and payments to the Village Hall charitable trust of £1,071 in 2023-24 and £8,590 in 2024-25. The payment to the hall included £2,229 VAT refunded, which had been claimed on its behalf by the council as sole trustee, and the remainder was for major redecoration in 2024. The total increase in spending in 2024-25 on professional fees (£585 increase), transferring recovered VAT (£2229 increase), purchases (£302 increase) and support for the hall's outgoings (£5290 increase) was partly offset by the lower spending on tree surgery (£1,175 lower). Schedule attached.
7 Balances Carried Forward	17,009	19,395				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	17,009	19,394				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	27,992	27,995	3	0.01%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable