

Annual Governance & Accountability Return Section 2 ~ Explanations of Quantified Significant Variances 2023-24*

- **Box 2:** The precept levied was increased by £722 from £3,478 in 2022-23 to £4,200 in 2023-24 because income would otherwise have been insufficient to cover routine Parish Council expenditure. (Variance = $\pm 20.76\%$)
- **Box 3:** Total other receipts were £9,634 more than in 2022-23. This increase occurred because the Parish Council held a significant fundraising event in June 2023. (Variance = +183.05%) See Page 2.
- **Box 4:** Staffing costs increased in 2023-24 as a result of both locally and nationally agreed pay awards. (Variance = +44.01%) See Page 2.

Box 5: N/A

Box 6: N/A

Box 7: N/A - carry forward reserves are greater than at the end of 2022-23 because a a significant fundraising event held in June 2023 brought in significant income intended for grants and donations, which were only awarded in 2024-25.

Box 8: N/A

Box 9: N/A

Box 10: N/A

Statement of Reserves

The Parish Council held the following reserves at the year end:

RESERVE	AMOUNT
Haigh Windpump Reserve	£1,000
Canal Towpath Repair Reserve	£4,000
Elections	£1,500
Participatory Budgeting Projects Reserve	£5,804
General Reserve	£7,387
TOTAL	£19,691

Appendix A

*Detailed quantified explanations are only provided for variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except when variances are less than £200).

<u>Box 3</u>

ITEM	2023-24 £	2022-23 £	DIFF £	BALANCE £	NARRATIVE
Council Tax Support Grant	1,032	1,032	0	0	Council Tax Support grant the same in both years
Other Grants	0	2,500	(2,500)	(2,500)	No other grants received in 2023-24
Events	13,865	556	13,309	10,809	Bubblefest 23 held in June '23 raised significant income
Insurance Claim	0	792	(792)	10,017	No insurance claims were made in 2023-24
VAT Reclaimed	0	384	(384)	9,633	VAT charges were below £1, so no VAT claims were submitted in 2023-24
TOTAL:	14,897	5,264	9,633	183.05%	Variance

<u>Box 4</u>

ITEM	2023/24 £	2022/23 £	DIFF £	BALANCE £	NARRATIVE
Clerk's Salary (net)	4001	2,748	1,253	1,253	Substantial Local and national pay awards made in 2023-24
Mileage	72	47	25	1,278	Mileage claims increased due to increase in activities
TOTAL:	4,073	2,795	1,278	45.81%	Variance