

Explanation of variances

Name of smaller authority: **Aldworth Parish Council**
 County area (local councils and): **West Berkshire**
 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: variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
- a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

	2019/2020 £	2020/2021 £	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	9,979	11,404				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	7,500	7,500	0	0.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	0	278	278	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	No other receipts were received in 2019-2020 apart from the Precept (see box 2). In 2020-2021 we were in receipt of a grant from West Berkshire Council to purchase Hand Sanitiser Dispensers and Gel for the Village Hall totalling £231.00. The previous clerk did not put in a claim for the VAT in 2019-2020, the new clerk actioned this and £47.00 was received on 29th March 2021.
4 Staff Costs	2,516	3,275	759	30.17%	YES		The new clerk, who took over in November 2020 has a higher SCP than the previous clerk as the new clerk has achieved her CiLCA qualification. Also, extra hours were undertaken to bring Aldworth Parish Council up to date with new policies, new email system and new website which the Council agreed to pay in full.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	1,298	1,281	-17	1.31%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	2,261	4,459	2,198	97.21%	YES		With the arrival of a new clerk, the Parish Council made a number of new purchases, these included: £372 on new Finance Software (Alpha from Rialtus), £240 on a new website and email system, £71 on a subscription to BALC, £38 on the Virtual Practitioners Conference for the clerk, £1,216 on repairs to the Playground, £217 on a new filing cabinet and £50 on upgrading the clerk's laptop. All additional purchases have been implemented to adhere to best practices and enable smooth running of the Council.
7 Balances Carried Forward	11,404	10,167			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	11,404	10,167			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	38,663	34,455	-4,412	11.35%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	23,000	22,500	-500	2.17%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable