

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Great Budworth Parish Council**
 County area (local councils and): **Cheshire West and Chester**

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);
- 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).

	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	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	9,815	23,586					
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	9,654	10,587	933	9.66%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	30,765	1,001	-29,764	96.75%	YES		Income was boosted significantly in 2018/19 by a payment for the filming in the village of War of the Worlds by Mammoth Screen for BBC (£27,500). There was also a VAT reclaim of £2589; a partial refund of a grant (£163); a sum from the Jubilee Committee (£412); and a photography fee (£60). A VAT reclaim has not yet been made for 2019/20 and the only income received, apart from precept, in that year is a grant from Cheshire West and Chester (£1000) and peppercorn rent for the Parish Hall (£1).
4 Staff Costs	3,732	4,783	1,051	28.16%	YES		The variance can largely be accounted for by the new clerk being appointed on a contract of 6hrs per week rather than 4hrs. There has also been a national increase in employer pension contributions and the National Joint Council for Local Government Services agreed new pay scales for 2019/20.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	22,916	5,908	-17,008	74.22%	YES		The additional income generated by filming in the village in 2018/19 enabled various projects to be undertaken. These included major tree works along the Avenue (£5740) as well as footpath installation (£4464 + £6816) and replacing a stile with a kissing gate (£492) to improve environmental quality and accessibility. Expenditure in 2019/20 can largely be accounted for by tree works (£220 + £660); general maintenance (£1641); signage (£164); and grants to the Church (£250) and Budworth Bulletin (£400). In both years expenditure on office expenses, insurance, audit fees, and memberships were similar but more was spent on the website in 2018/19 when it was upgraded.
7 Balances Carried Forward	23,586	24,483			YES	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED EXPLANATION REQUIRED ON RESERVES TAB AS TO WHY CARRY FORWARD RESERVES ARE GREATER THAN TWICE INCOME FROM LOCAL TAXATION/LEVIES	See next sheet
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	23,586	24,483				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	416,433	416,433	0	0.00%	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

Explanation for 'high' reserves

(Please complete the highlighted boxes.)

Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because the authority held the following breakdown of reserves at the year end:

	£	£	£
Earmarked reserves:			
Reserve 1	5000		Parish Field
Reserve 2	5000		Avenue / trees / survey
Reserve 3	9000		Lower pumphouse
Reserve 4	306		Top pumphouse
Reserve 5	2000		Highways, parking, signage
Reserve 6	2000		Farthing Lane
Reserve 7			
		<u>23306</u>	
General reserve	<u>1177</u>		
		1177	
Total reserves (must agree to Box 7)			<u><u>24483</u></u>