

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: SPIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
County area (local councils and parish meetings only): NORFOLK

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);
- variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
- New from 2025/26 onwards: variances of £500,000 or more in Box 3 require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year for smaller authorities with income and/or expenditure exceeding £6,500,000

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	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	631,385	661,728				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	80,750	111,000	30,250	37.46%	YES		Spixworth Parish Council has not increased the precept for the last 7 years I was agreed to set the amount at £111,000 to cover rising costs/inflation.
3 Total Other Receipts	77,080	90,621	13,541	17.57%	YES		One off refund received from SSE Energy (Streetlight Power Supplier) of £25,177.71 for overpayment of streetlight charges.
4 Staff Costs	55,876	64,607	8,731	15.63%	YES		New employment of Parish Caretaker role started in July 2025 which increased salary, tax and pension payments. Also £517.14 was spent on maintenance tools for the Parish Caretaker. £759.20 was paid to DWP for child maintenance payments which wee deducted from salary prior to payment.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	71,611	276,643	205,032	286.31%	YES		Amenity Landscape Project £164,126.14/ Legal Fees License Dispute-£1,650/Council Training-£197/ Tree Cutting GM Land-£640/ Gate Repair-£160/Overpayment Street light power- £25,177.71/ 6 Yearly streetlight structure test-£3,384/ New I.D labels for streetlights-£1,559/ Memorial Bench-£1,181.95/ Heras Fencing GM-£376.57/ Rail Fence-£1,500/ Market rent valuation-£1000/ New Office Printer-£1,425/ Equipment Repairs-£121.48/ Dog Bin Lid-£38/Japanese Knotweed Treatment-£153/ Park Swing Repair- £160/ Bird Spikes for swing-£51/ Picnic bench panel-£65/ Replacement Posts Allotments-£75/Allotment Grass Cutting-£236.74/ 3 x new allotment posts-£105/New amenity land first cut-£765.70/ Gate Repair on amenity land MM-£375/Picnic Area Bins-£347.90/ Donation V.E day RBL-£87.50/ First Aid Kits x 3 £73.70
7 Balances Carried Forward	661,728	522,100				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	661,728	522,100				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	355,654	564,940	209,286	58.85%	YES		Assets added: Memorial Bench £916.95/ 3 x grit bins £539.16/ 2 x dog bins £442.59/ 2 x litter bins £331.90/ Printer £1,425/ New Playground Equipment 2023 £112,794.40/£95,750
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable