

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Ringstead Parish Council**

County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

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	26,643	37,586				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	19,000	19,000	0	0.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	10,078	2,169	-7,909	78.48%	YES		In 2024/25 the Parish Council received a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment of £7153.77 from the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, no CIL payments were received in 2025/26. In 2024/25 the VAT reclaim was £1797.49 whilst in 2025/26 the VAT reclaim was only £1003.32 a reduction of £794.17.
4 Staff Costs	7,835	8,694	859	10.96%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	10,300	13,948	3,648	35.41%	YES		In 2025/26 the Parish Council had a number of repairs that were not required in 2024/25. This included repair of a brick pillar on the playing field at a cost of £750.00 and repair of a SAM2 sign at a cost of £444.00. The Borough Council increased the cost of emptying the dog bins from £456.77 to £1054.56 an increase of £597.79. The Parish Council were required to contribute £1462.31 in 2025/26 towards the purchase a new Gateway sign installed on Hunstanton Road as part of the Parish Partnership Scheme. The Council had to renew its licence with its website provider WIX for a further 3 year contract at a cost of £518.14 in 2025/26. In 2025/26 the Council gave an additional £200 donation to the church. In 2024/25 the Council paid £329.00 towards the hire of the Village Hall for meetings which has not been paid in 2025/26.
7 Balances Carried Forward	37,586	36,113				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	37,586	36,113				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	111,675	117,092	5,417	4.85%	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