

Explanation of variances 2021/22

Watford Parish Council - Northamptonshire

Please provide **full explanations, including numerical values**, for the following:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- a breakdown of approved reserves if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

Section 2	2020/21 £	2021/22 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
Box 2 <i>Precept or Rates and Levies</i>	£13,500	£13,500	Nil	N/A	N/A
Box 3 <i>Total other receipts</i>	£ 626	£1,559	£ 933		£710 has been paid in for donations towards the Platinum Jubilee. A grant donation of £221, has been received from NCALC for the Asset Mapping Project.
Box 4 <i>Staff costs</i>	£ 4,591	£ 4,823	£ 232		N/A
Box 5 <i>Loan interest/ capital repayments</i>	Nil	Nil			N/A
Box 6 <i>All other payments</i>	£ 5,051	£ 9,215	£ 4,164		Tree maintenance works were undertaken in the Cemetery and Churchyard totalling £1,259. An increase to the grass mowing frequency to fortnightly cuts caused an increase of £750.00 to the annual amount. An election was called in May 2021, which had expenditure costs of £1,210. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations have incurred costs of £499. A donation has been given to the Library of £250
Box 8 <i>Total Cash & Investments</i>	£12,305	£13,326	£ 1,021		Donations towards the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations have been received, this money has been ringfenced for the event totalling £710. Cemetery income this year was £555 compared to zero in 2020/21.
Box 9 <i>Total fixed assets & long term investments & assets</i>	£26,303	£26,303	Nil		N/A

Box 10 <i>Total borrowings</i>	Nil	Nil			N/A
Explanation for 'high' reserves	<p>The Churchyard wall has been identified has in the need of repairs and quotes are being sought. A figure of £5,000 has been budgeted for, should West Northants Council not be able to put the expenditure through on the parish's special expenses for future years.</p> <p>There have also been quotes received this year for providing some play equipment for the children in the parish, which is an ongoing investigative project but will require a large amount of money spending should the plans progress.</p>				