

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Dry Draytin Parish Council**
County area (local councils and **Cambridgeshire**

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 onwards:** variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;

	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	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	25,295	32,415				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	29,000	23,000	-6,000	20.69%	YES		This is the note from last years explanation of variances which explains why the parish council increased their precept amount in 2023/24. Historic precept figures are: 2016-17 £14,250, 2017-18 £14,250, 2018-19 £13,287, 2019-20 £11,304, 2020-21 £14,949, 2021-22 £16,175 & 2022-23 £17,250. Therefore, to make good past real term cuts the precept needed to be a minimum of £21,997 and with CPI in December 22 the figure would be £22,287. There was also a shortfall in the general reserves which needed to be included and the precept was higher than previous years as there were projects the parish council wanted to carry out. For 2024/25 the figure is back on track from all the previous years real term cuts. The parish council has been able to decrease the precept by £6K for 2024/25.
3 Total Other Receipts	1,864	3,919	2,055	110.25%	YES		The parish council opened a savings account with Unity Trust Bank in 2024/25 and earned £1,103.43 in interest during 2024/25. The parish council received £375.00 from South Cambs District Council to hold for a Community Garden Scheme. The VAT refund for 2023/24 was £781.52 but in 2024/25 it increased to £1,572.01, this correlates with Point 6 the all other payments figure as this is £5,316.00 higher in 2023/24 meaning more VAT was refunded this year due to more money being spent last year.
4 Staff Costs	10,046	10,830	784	7.80%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	13,698	8,382	-5,316	38.81%	YES		We had some unregular spending in 2023/24 which included: £3,226.44 spent on Section 106 projects as the deadline for spending of all monies we held for this purposed would have been clawed back by the district council if not spent. Also £3,895.20 was spent on essential repairs and refurbishment of one of our council owned bus shelters.
7 Balances Carried Forward	32,415	40,122				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	0	0				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	25,189	25,797	608	2.41%	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