**Explanation of variances**

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

County area (local councils and parish meetings only: **Suffolk**

**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** | **2016/17**  **£** | **2017/18**  **£** | **Variance**  **£** | **Variance**  **%** | **Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)** |
| **Box 2**  *Precept or Rates and Levies* | £66,219 | £68,868 | £2,649 | 4% | £2,649 precept increase due to loss of tax grant and continuing increase in revenue expenditure. |
| **Box 3**  *Total other receipts* | £9,867 | £21,866 | £11,999 | 121.60% | £1,557 Neighbourhood Plan grant  £3,455 increase in cemetery revenue  £1,500 Woodland funding SCC  £5,434.17 cleansing grant difference due to underpayment of £2296 (for 16/1 but received 17/18)  £792.48 diff in admin overall due to £2,250 refund of Debenham Players funding given but not used  (£639.82) underpayment of agrig holding rent |
| **Box 4**  *Staff costs* | £18,890 | £20,200 | £1,310 | 6.93% | £419 additional hours for Neighbourhood Plan  £891 increase in scale and pension payments |
| **Box 5**  *Loan interest/ capital repayments* | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |
| **Box 6**  *All other payments* | £65,442 | £75,649 | £10,207 | 15.59% | £4,322.82 Neihbourhood plan costs  (£2285.05) Queen’s 90th expenditure incurred 16/17 but not in 17/18  £1,826.58 increase in cemetery costs  £6078.84 increase in Woodland capitla projects and maintenance costs  £360.16 increase in admin costs |
| **Box 9**  *Total fixed assets & long term investments & assets* | £137,040 | £165,826 | £28,796 | 21% | £3,59.00 decrease (disposal of old laptop)  £29,144.99 increase in asset value following review and inflation increase |
| **Box 10**  *Total borrowings* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Explanation for ‘high’ reserves** | Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because the authority held the following breakdown of reserves at the year end:  Play Area Reserve £1,250.00  Play Equip Maintenance Reserve £2,600.00  Cemetery Reserve £2,500.00  Election Expenses Reserve £1,000.00  Highways Reserve £1,000.00  Allotments Reserve £500.00  Trees/Greens & Open Spaces Res £2,500.00  Public Lighting Reserve £ 6,000.00  Public Toilets Reserve £7,000.00  Payroll Reserve £2,000.00  Street Furniture Reserve £5,000.00  Website Reserve £500.00  Administration Reserve £500.00  Training Reserve £1,200.00  Legal & Professional Reserve £5,000.00  Village Enhancement Reserve £6,500.00  Section 133 Reserve £7,500.00  Woodland Project Reserve £11,426.27 (This amount will change in the next financial year as capital projects are underway)   * There is also still an amount in excess of £60k in general reserves which is for the cost of the newly installed street lights, for which the parish council is yet to be invoiced (but had budgeted for and expected to incurr the expendiure in 17/18) | | | | |