

Explanation of variances

Name of smaller authority: **METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL**

County area (local councils and parish meetings only): **NORFOLK**

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 | 2018/19 £ | 2019/20 £ | Variance £ | Variance % | Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £) |
|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| Box 2 <i>Precept or Rates and Levies</i> | 50806 | 53347 | 2541 | 5 | Increase in Precept |
| Box 3 <i>Total other receipts</i> | 34040 | 33447 | -593 | -1.7 | In the past year we have lost one of our groups who hired the facilities weekly, this was due to lack of members and illness. |
| Box 4 <i>Staff costs</i> | 14714 | 21234 | 6520 | 31 | Additional part time staff member, 10 hours per week at £9.39 per hour and increase to Clerk's salary. |
| Box 5 <i>Loan interest/ capital repayments</i> | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | |
| Box 6 <i>All other payments</i> | 65868 | 100777 | 34909 | 35 | Increase in costs are due to improvements and repairs to the buildings Electrical survey £1440 and completion of essential work required = £13559 Japanese Knotweed Treatment = £1210 Solicitor fees to arrange agreement for Social Club Drive = £4825 Dividing Doors = £7188 New lintel above doorway =£250 Changes to store room = £500 Installation of new front door = £3000 Garden improvements in Mini Methwold = £1415 New tables & Chairs = £ 20419 Building repairs to comply with fire regs + £410 Counter in parish office = £428 Total = £54644 |
| Box 9 <i>Total fixed assets & long term investments & assets</i> | 1457760 | 1475427 | 17667 | 1.2 | The Asset register has been updated, cost of old items reduced and the new items added |

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|--|---|-----|-----|-----|--|
| Box 10 <i>Total borrowings</i> | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | |
| Explanation for 'high' reserves | <p>Box 7 is more than Box 2 because the authority held the following breakdown of reserves at the year end.</p> <p>£25,000 – Emergency Reserve Fund essential repairs or maintenance work.</p> <p>£26,933 – Earmarked Funds – increased from last year because now the alterations are complete we need to have Electrical Certificates and there may be work required to obtain these. Toilet refurbishment, floor in St George's Hall. Solicitors Fees for the Easement agreement on the drive and setting up the Trust Fund for the old social club. £1500 Japanese Knotweed eradication programme</p> <p>£26,000 – Renewals – planning an effective programme of equipment replacement or maintenance – Church Yard wall, Fence on the Recreation Ground, Playground Equipment.</p> <p>£9430 – Grant Reserves – includes £3400 remaining from PV Panels this money will be used to fund batteries, CIL donations – projects to be decided.</p> <p>£2500 – Tree works £2500 - Savings</p> <p>Total £92363</p> | | | | |
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