

Explanation of variances – 2017/18

Staplegrave Parish Council

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 <i>Precept or Rates and Levies</i> | 13000 | 8500 | -4500 | 34% | In 2016/17 the precept request was higher as: * the long standing Clerk was retiring, a 'contingency' was requested in case a locum Clerk was needed - 956 * biennial tree inspection in The Grove was due this year, and an amount was requested to cover projected tree works - 2500 |
| Box 3 <i>Total other receipts</i> | 6661 | 7079 | 418 | 6% | |
| Box 4 <i>Staff costs</i> | 3387 | 3821 | 434 | 12% | |
| Box 5 <i>Loan interest/ capital repayments</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Box 6 <i>All other payments</i> | 10515 | 5859 | -4656 | 44% | In the 2016/17 a number of 'one-off' expenses were incurred: *new noticeboard - £180 *repairs were carried out to the wall of the Manor Road playground after it was damaged by a car – 1860 *tree report and tree works were carried out in The Grove – 1276 *a path was created in the Manor Road playground as there is no pavement along that stretch of the road - 1490 |
| Box 9 <i>Total fixed assets & long term investments & assets</i> | 18719 | 18719 | 0 | 0 | |
| Box 10 <i>Total borrowings</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

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| Explanation for 'high' reserves | <p>Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because the authority held the following breakdown of reserves at the year end: The reserves have been at a consistently high level for several years. This was contributed to by contingency amounts being requested and then not used. It has been further exacerbated by the payment of CIL funding which can be kept for 5 years, before being spent.</p> <p>Fund in case by-election is called mid term - £1,000.00 Further tree work in The Grove - £720.00 CIL funding - £4,604.09 The General Reserve balance is therefore £26,001.46</p> <p>The high level of reserves will be raised at the next Parish Council meeting.</p> |
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