Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **STOW BARDOLPH PARISH COUNCIL**

County area (local councils anc NORFOLK

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);
- variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
- **New from 2025/26 onwards**: variances of £500,000 or more in Box 3 require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year for smaller authorities with income and/or expenditure exceeding £6,500,000

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	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	20,891	24,278				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	16,000	17,000	1,000	6.25%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	11,093	8,949	-2,144	19.33%	YES		The difference of £2,144 is accounted for as follows: In 2024/25 the council received CIL income of £2,076.08 and an Active Travel Grant (for cycle storage) of £212.79. No CIL or grants were received in 2025/26 – decrease of £2,288.87 In 2024/25 the council received £151.73 in bank interest, compared to £126.03 in 2025/26 – a decrease of £25.70 In 2024/25 the council received an VAT refund of £1,033.15, compared to £1203.04 in 2025/26 – an increase of £169.89 £2,288.87 + £25.70 - £169.89 = £2,144.68
4 Staff Costs	5,860	6,207	347	5.92%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	17,846	19,156	1,310	7.34%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	24,278	24,864				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	24,278	24,864				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	28,428	28,428	0	0.00%	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