Explanation of variances - pro forma

Name of smaller authority: County area (local councils and Great Horkesley Parish Council Colchester, Essex

	2020/21 £	2021/22 £	Variance £	Variance %		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	50,910	82,768				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	35,075	36,919	1,844	5.26%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	57,009	35,877	-21,132	37.07%	YES		In the previous year, ending 31 March 2021, the Parish Council received a number of grants and donations totalling more than £50,000 due to the village hall being closed and furloughing staff. However this year the village hall remained closed for the first three months of the financial year, and then booking numbers continued to remain low due to Covid-19 (only £20,061 was received as income from village hall bookings), and this is the Council's main source of other income. Grants of only £12,025 were received for the village hall this year.
4 Staff Costs	40,233	29,258	-10,975	27.28%	YES		The Clerk resigned with immediate effect at the beginning of December 2021, and the Clerk was not replaced for the remainder of the financial year. This meant we unexpectedly saved £11,716 in staffing costs.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	19,993	49,375	29,382	146.96%	YES		In the previous year, ending 31 March 2021, the village hall was closed for the whole year due to Covid-19 so there was a significant reduction in running costs including all utility bills, cleaning and maintenance costs. This year the village hall reopened and so the costs of maintaining the village hall increased (most notably cleaning costs £1,793 and electricity costs £1,913). We also spent £20,792 on resurfacing the Village Hall car park and installed a village sign at a cost of £4,506.
7 Balances Carried Forward	82,768	76,931			YES	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED EXPLANATION REQUIRED ON RESERVES TAB AS TO WHY CARRY FORWARD RESERVES ARE GREATER THAN TWICE INCOME FROM LOCAL TAXATION/LEVIES	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	82,768	76,931				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	l
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments a	n c 519,667	547,049	27,382	5.27%	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