

Explanation of variances

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

County area (local council) and **Cheshire East**

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);
- New from 2020/21 onwards:** variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
- a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/prizes & levies value (Box 2).

	2021/22	2022/23	Variance	Variance	Explanation Required?	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
	£	£	£	%		
1 Balances Brought Forward	14,818	14,818			Automatic reduction (input) based on figure input. DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	£0	£0	0	0.00%	NO	
3 Total Other Receipts	£0	£0	32	21.48%	YES	Explanation not required - difference less than £200
4 Staff Costs	£216	£187	-123	5.32%	NO	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	£	£	0	0.00%	NO	
6 All Other Payments	3,024	4,911	1,887	62.73%	YES	Plus £48 audit fee/minus £786 Clerks Xyplus £2659 bench/minus £32 room hire/plus £887 not/caboard refurbishment/minus £125 web/email costs/minus £50 donation to greaver/plus £45 increase in microsoft fee/minus £100 donation to local clubs/minus £389 office equipment purchased last year/minus 49 no chalk paint purchased = £1898
7 Balances Carried Forward	15,490	15,142			VARIANCE £348 AVOIDING NOT RECORDED EXPLANATION REQUIRED FOR ALL RESERVES TAB AS TO WHY CARRY FORWARD RESERVES ARE GREATER THAN TWICE INCOME FROM LOCAL TAXATION/LEVIES	Members encouraged with proposed budget for projects to spend reserves and suggested precept reduction. Suggestion was overruled but Councillor has now resigned and moving forward new members are keen to spend on projects within the parish.
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	11,494	11,543			VARIANCE £49 AVOIDING NOT RECORDED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	1,118	4,599	2,118	31.11%	YES	See Supporting Statement. Office equipment total corrected from 21/22 to exclude VAT therefore new figure for this is £491 - decrease £38. Increase in assets of two new benches at £2216 = £2118.
10 Total Borrowings	£	£	0	0.00%	NO	

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable

Explanation for 'high' reserves

(Please complete the highlighted boxes.)

Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because the authority held the following breakdown of reserves at the year end:

	£	£	£
Earmarked reserves:			
Grounds			
Maintenance			
Project		5,000	
Planters		3,000	
Boundary Signs		1,200	
		<u>9200</u>	
General reserve		6,000	
		<u>6000</u>	
Total reserves (must agree to Box 7)			<u><u>15200</u></u>