

Explanation of variances – pro forma

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

County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

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);
- a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

	31-Mar-19 £	31-Mar-20 £	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	10,996	9,068					
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	6,500	8,900	2,400	36.92%	YES		Lincs County Council reduced seasonal maintenance in the village due to budget restraints. The costs of additional village maintenance were passed onto the Parish Council. In response, the Parish Council of 2018-19 voted to raise the precept to cover increasing costs of grass cutting and maintenance in the village.
3 Total Other Receipts	6,624	1,039	-5,585	84.31%	YES		The Parish Council of 2018-19 received a number of large grants for work on the Scotton Neighbourhood plan. The Parish Council of 2019-20 carried over the smaller balance remaining from the NDP grant awarded in the previous financial year. Grants received in 2019-20 were for £100 from West Lindsey District Council and allotment rent of £864.00. Allotment income was slightly reduced from previous year, as one of the allotments was no longer rented.
4 Staff Costs	1,660	994	-666	40.83%	YES		The Council of 2018-19, (apart from one member), did not stand for re-election in April 2019 and the long-serving Clerk left before the start of financial year 2019-20. The Parish Council reformed, with the one remaining Councillor in July 2019. The new Clerk took up duties in September 2019. The budget for wages was £1,660 but the Clerk only worked 7/12th of the year, resulting in an underspend in this budget.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	13,371	7,173	-6,198	46.35%	YES		The Parish Council of 2019-20 have kept expenditure to a minimum seeking value for money in all budgets. As the Council reformed later in the year and the Clerk began employment in September 2019, fewer salary and business costs were incurred. The Council also wished to establish what demands there might be on the precept and allow for other costs throughout the year.
7 Balances Carried Forward	9,068	10,840			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	9,068	10,840				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	183,856	188,470	4,614	2.51%	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