Explanation of significant variances in the accounting statements - Section 2

Parish Council name: COLTON PARISH COUNCIL

Please explain any variances of more than 15% between the totals for individual boxes in Section 2. We do not require explanations for variances of less than £200; however, in some cases there may be 'compensating' variances which leave the overall total for a box relatively unchanged – e.g. where there was a major one-off project in one year (e.g. contribution to village hall extension of £30,000), but a totally different expense of a similar size in the next (e.g. purchase of playground equipment of £28,000). In such cases, it would be helpful to provide an explanation of movements within each box. We also ask you to explain any change where there is a movement to or from zero. Please either use the proforma below, or complete a separate schedule if more space is required.

Section 2	2019/20 £	2020/21 £	Variance (+/-) £	Detailed explanation of variance (for each reason noted please include monetary values (to nearest £10)
Box 2 Precept	14,150	12,279	-1,871 (-13.2%)	Precept reduced due to cost savings from new grounds maintenance contract, particularly for burial grounds, and planned use of certain earmarked reserves.
Box 3 Other income	2,401	603	-1,798 (-74.9%)	The previous year included a large VAT refund for 2018/19 (1,851) whereas no VAT refund was received during 2020/21.
Box 4 Staff costs	3,551	3,534	-16 (-0.5%)	-
Box 5 Loan interest/ capital	0	0	-	-
Box 6 Other payments	9,652	9,607	-45 (-0.5%)	-
Box 7 Balances carried forward	41,519	41,260	-259 (-0.6%)	If some of the year-end balances are earmarked for specific purposes rather than as a general reserve, please provide a breakdown. SEE LIST OF EARMARKED RESERVES ATTACHED.
Box 9 Fixed assets & long term assets	3,050	3,050	-	Explain all movements in this category and not just those above 15% -
Box 10 Total borrowing	0	0	-	-