Explanation of variances 2020/21

Name of smaller authority: Ambrosden Parish Council

Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all Blue highlighted boxes

Now, 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 £500);
- a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept value (Box 2).

	2020 £	2021 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	DO NOT OVERWRITE THE BOXES HIGHLIGHTED IN RED/GREEN	Explanation (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	56,369	47,789				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	25,500	26,000	500	1.96%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	8,941	8,598	-343	3.84%	NO		
4 Staff Costs	9,110	11,013	1,903	20.89%	YES	Increase primarily due to an increase in Clerking base pay and base hours, in line with increase scope of responsibilites, increasing basic wages by around £172 p/m from March 2020. Additional increases are accounted for by other increased in staff pay (in line with NJC recommendations (amouting to £95.04 over the year as well increased overtime pay claims	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	33,911	23,705	-10,206	30.10%	YES	The primary difference is due to the lack of specialist advise required for 20-21, which amounted for 14532 of spending in 2019-20. Other large reductions included £2552 less on donations due to less applications, 1543 less on allotments (high cost in 2019-20 due to intial set up), £980 less on hall rental (due to Covid) and £610 less on burial grounds (double payment in 2019-20) These reductions in spending were balanced partly by the large expenditure on Highways (VAS installations as below)	
7 Balances Carried Forward	47,789	47,669	-120	0.25%	NO		
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	47,789	47,669	-120	0.25%	NO		
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	19,806	28,882	9,076	45.82%	YES	This accounted for primary due to the purchase of 4 new VAS for the Parish at a cost of £8997.	
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
Excessive Reserves Ratio	1.87408	1.83342					