Explanation of variances – pro forma 2017/18

Walberswick Parish Council of Suffolk County

Please provide <u>full explanations, including numerical values</u>, for the following:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- a breakdown of approved reserves if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

Section 2	2016/17 £	2017/18 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
Box 2 Precept or Rates and Levies	8000	12000	4000	+ 50%	In 2016/17, the Council set a precept that was below expected expenditures. In 2017/18, according to the Issues Arising Report from BDO, the Council did not take action to request a precept but instead Suffolk Coastal District Council determined and paid a precept of £12,000 in accordance with the Principal body's arrangements.
Total other receipts	3237	18772	15535	+ 480%	£13556 of the difference comes from the receipt of donations for a future project (unstarted) for the preservation and display of the "Walberswick Scroll" and renovation of the Walberswick Heritage Hut. These monies have been deposited to a ring-fenced HSBC account. The first deposit was made in January 2018. In addition there was the receipt of grant funds for the clearing of gorse.
Box 4 Staff costs	2611	10629	8018	+ 308%	For much of 2016/17, there was no Clerk/RFO in place. In addition, the Council met sporadically. This resulted in unusually low staff costs. In 2017/18 when we had a new, quorate Council, a Clerk who was employed for the entire year, monthly meetings and the conduct of normal Council business, normal staff costs were incurred. These costs in 2017/18 reflect a steady state of staff costs and we expect that these costs will be in line with 2018/19.
Box 5 Loan interest/ capital repayments Box 6			,		n/a
All other payments	15519	10,697	4822	- 31%	The drop in non-staff expenditures is because in 2016/17 there was the purchase of new playground equipment and higher external audit costs that were not incurred in 2017/18.

Box 9 Total fixed assets & long term investments & assets	n/a
Box 10 Total borrowings	n/a
Explanation for 'high' reserves	Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because the authority held the following breakdown of reserves at the year end: N/A