Explanation of variances – pro forma

Stoke Bliss Group Parish Council
Worcestershire

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).

	2024_25 £	2025_26 £	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	4,454	5,062				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	5,501	5,776	275	5.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	3,277	3,164	-113	3.45%	NO		
4 Staff Costs	3,798	4,427	629	16.56%	YES		**Increased the clerk hours of work from 4 hours per week to 5 hours per week. The clerk was actually working 5 hours per week and has been for a considerable time since mid 2024/25. The Clerk current rate of pay is SCP 25 at £18.26 per hour and salary is £3798.08. Increasing to 5 hours per week would take the salary to £4747.60 for a full year although if this is effective from 1st August it would only affect 8 months of this financial year. This would actually mean that the increase for 2025/26 would make the clerk salary £4431.10.**
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	4,372	5,032	660	15.10%	YES		
7 Balances Carried Forward	5,062	4,543			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	5,062	4,543				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Inv	2,105	2,105	0	0.00%	NO		The Parish obtained a grant from WCC to purchase a Parish Grit Bin costing £500
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		