

**Explanation of variances**

Name of smaller authority:

Mersham with Sevington Parish Council

County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

Kent

Insert figures from Section 1 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).

	2018/19	2019/20	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	30,825	11,828					Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward does not agree, query this
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	15,130	19,500	4,370	28.88%	0 1 1	YES	Precept increased as per budgeting agreement and consequential precept request made in December 2018 increase = £4370
3 Total Other Receipts	2,831	2,403	-428	15.13%	1 0 1	YES	A grant for a laptop and a grant for a noticeboard were applied for and awarded in 2018-19 = £1479.15, only £300 was applied for and granted in 2019-20 = -1179.15 VAT Reclaim in 2017/18 was £306.06, in 18/19 this was valued at £495.06 and in 19/20 £478.13 = £607.13 There was an increase in Council Tax Support Grant = £111 Interest rates rose in 2019-20, providing an increase in Interest of £32.62 -1179.17+607.13+111 +32.62 = -428
4 Staff Costs	8,087	9,112	1,025	12.68%	0 1 0	NO	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	0 0 0	NO	
6 All Other Payments	28,871	14,440	-14,431	49.98%	1 0 1	YES	A Donation made to Mersham Sports Club for £15000.00 towards new club house, not paid in this year = -15000 A new beacon was made and installed in Sevington North in the previous year as a one-off payment, no such payment this year= - £1777.00 Donation toward the Hire of the hall and for the printing of The parish magazine not given in 2018/19 but paid in 2019/20= £600.00 Purchase of a noticeboard for Sevington North and a Hedgehog home making day held and paid for in 2019/20, not paid in the previous year = £1895.99 Nothing owed to Pkf Littlejohn in 2018/19 but owed in 2019/20 = £240.00 A new laptop and software was purchased in 2018/19, not required in 2019/20 = -£301.73 An increase in Caretaker expenditure = 88 -15000-1777+600+1895.99+240-301.73+88 = -14430.74
7 Balances Carried Forward	11,828	10,179				NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	11,828	10,179				NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	46,627	46,627	0	0.00%	0 0 0	NO	
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	0 0 0	NO	