

Explanation of variances 2019/2020

Name MILFIELD PARISH COUNCIL, NORTHUMBERLAND

Please provide full explanations, including numerical values, 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).
- Totals may not agree due to rounding to the nearest pound
- Full details of all receipts and payments are in the accounts on the Council's website -

Section 2	2018/19 £	291/29 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
Box 2 <i>Precept or Rates and Levies</i>	2200	2400	200	9%	Below 15%
Box 3 <i>Total other receipts</i>	8999	30781	7638	242%	In 2018/2019 the receipts included the receipt of a grant of £3879 from the Community Foundation for the planters and the very generous legacy of £5000 from the late Mr Grey. In 2019/2020 £781 is a VAT refund for expenditure in 2018/2019 and £30,000 is a contribution from developers towards the provision of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) within the parish.
Box 4 <i>Staff costs</i>	965	780	185	19%	The change is due to the clerk's travel expenses which have been recorded in Other payments to accord with recently issued national advice.
Box 5 <i>Loan interest/ capital repayments</i>	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	There are no loans

Box 6 <i>All other payments</i>	5700	1410	4060	248%	Payments in 2018/2019 included the planters with the grant (see 3 above), a commemorative plaque for The Reading Room, Repairs, to the Speed Indicator sign and a community BBQ. Payments in 2019/2020 were of a routine nature – see also the explanation of high reserves below
Box 9 <i>Total fixed assets & long term investments & assets</i>	9104	9104	0	0	No Change
Box 10 <i>Total borrowings</i>	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	There are no borrowings

Explanation for “high” reserves

This is because of

- a) The Council has agreed to use the legacy as a grant towards the refurbishment of The Reading Room, Milfield. Those works were anticipated to be complete before the end of March 2020 with the grant being paid before 31 March 2020. Those intentions were interrupted by the Coronavirus National Emergency

- b) The receipt in October 2019 of the £30,000 contribution towards the cost of the MUGA (see Box 3 above). This work is dependent on there being a community asset transfer of the playing field by the County Council on which the MUGA will stand. This has been agreed in principle but the project is dependent of the County Council’s Associated Development Company agreeing to transfer the freestanding garages standing on land abutting the playing field as these will provide an income stream to assist with the future maintenance of the MUGA. Both these transactions have been suspended as a result of the Coronavirus National Emergency.