

## ANALYSIS OF VARIANCES ACCOUNTING YEAR 2019/20

The figures below show variances in Section 2 Accounting Statements between years ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. All variances are shown; where the variance was greater than £100 and/or 10%, it is shown in **bold** and an explanatory note attached.

### **Box 2: Precept**

Variation – the Precept was increased by **£1,000 (14%)** to cover installation of new streetlights.

### **Box 3: Total Other Receipts**

Variation – increase of **£4,932 (135%)** due to the following items:

Newsletter advertising, lower	<b>(157)</b>
Cemetery income, higher	<b>360</b>
VAT refunded, higher	<b>1,213</b>
Grants and donations, higher	<b>3,516</b>

**Newsletter advertising.** Some delays in obtaining renewal confirmation from advertisers, further complicated by the Covid-19 crisis.

**Cemetery income.** There were more burials/committal of ashes than last year, and additional income from plot reservations.

**VAT.** The VAT refunded by HMRC each year depends obviously on the total of VAT-able expenditure. This year's included the installation of some new streetlights and the initial consultancy work on the Neighbourhood Plan

**Grant and donations.** Grants received from TVBC (£707) and HCC (£1,000) for streetlights, and TVBC (£1,000) and Groundwork UK (£3,060) for the launch of the Neighbourhood Plan. In the previous year donations of £2,000 from the Village Hall and £250 from Leckford Estate for the streetlights were received

### **Box 4: Staff Costs**

Variation – increase of £48 (2%) due to slightly higher expenses incurred by the clerk.

### **Box 6: All Other Payments**

Variation – increase of **£11,999 (185%)** due to the following items:

Subscriptions, higher	20
Newsletter printing, higher	<b>398</b>
VAT paid, higher	<b>1,668</b>
Insurance, higher	41
Street lighting delivery and supply, higher	<b>7,322</b>
Street lights maintenance, lower	<b>(551)</b>
Neighbourhood Development Plan, higher/new	<b>3,060</b>
Section 137 payments, higher	8
General Admin, higher	<b>35</b>

**Newsletter printing.** Printing costs were higher, due to a return to 6 issues from the previous year's 5, and the addition of some colour pages.

**VAT.** The high VAT payment reflects the large bills paid for the new streetlights and the Neighbourhood Consultancy work.

**Street lighting: a) delivery and supply** - The main factor behind the increase was the installation of some new streetlights in the village at a cost of £7,411 (+VAT). Electricity supply costs reduced from £484 to £394 ; **b) maintenance** – with the new modern streetlights there is no need for an ongoing maintenance contract, so this cost has been eliminated.

**Neighbourhood Plan.** In late 2019 the Parish Council decided to begin the process of creating a Neighbourhood Plan. Professional consultants have been advising and guiding the PC and Steering Group through the initial steps, but with the Covid-19 crisis the process has now been temporarily suspended. An initial payment of £2,040 (+VAT) was made to the consultants, and the remaining unused grant balance of £1,020 was returned to Groundwork at financial year-end in accordance with the grant conditions.

**Section 137 payments.** The S137 rate was £8.12 per elector, which gave a maximum possible outlay therefore of some £3,150, of which we spent £928.

**Audit Fees and General Admin.** A total expenditure in 2019/20 of £149 included items for Audit Fees, HALC training for the Clerk, TVBC Election charges and the renewal of the ICO GDPR subscription