

## Explanation of Variances

Name of smaller authority: **Cowling Parish Council**

County area (local councils and parish meetings only): **North Yorkshire County Council**

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).

<b>Section 2</b>	<b>2016/17 £</b>	<b>2017/18 £</b>	<b>Variance £</b>	<b>Variance %</b>	<b>Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)</b>
<b>Box 2</b> <i>Precept or Rates and Levies</i>	50,100	49,770	330	<1%	n/a
<b>Box 3</b> <i>Total other receipts</i>	23,456	10,610	12,846	55%	<p>Previous year receipts included donation of £8,583 from a residents group towards new play equipment, £6,861 VAT return, £500 grant award, £1,003 war bonds cashed in and £6,139 planning gain funds.</p> <p>Receipts in 2017/18 more modest but in addition to precept included an Awards for All grant application of £9,815 and a £300 grant from North Yorkshire County Council.</p>
<b>Box 4</b> <i>Staff costs</i>	11,177	13,132	1,946	17%	<p>HMRC PAYE adjustments of £1,526 for 2013-17 were settled in the year.</p> <p>Also reflects pay award and minor increase in hours worked by the Council's Lengthsman to meet local needs.</p>
<b>Box 5</b> <i>Loan interest/ capital repayments</i>	0	0	0	0	n/a
<b>Box 6</b> <i>All other payments</i>	51,459	25,296	26,163	51%	<p>Previous year included purchase of new play equipment costing £34,740.</p> <p>In year project expenditure included £3,633 on Christmas Lights and £4,000 on play equipment.</p>
<b>Box 9</b> <i>Total fixed assets &amp; long term investments &amp; assets</i>	96,898	94,625	2,273	2%	n/a
<b>Box 10</b> <i>Total borrowings</i>	0	0	0	0	n/a

<b>Explanation for 'high' reserves</b>	<p>Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because the authority held the following breakdown of reserves at the year end: -</p> <p>£22,500 Highway improvement funds. Can only be used for highway improvements.</p> <p>£22,528 Play equipment reserves. The Parish Council has been building a reserve budget, earmarking funds to finance a large play project including a Multi-Use Games Area (being planned for 2019/20).</p> <p>Without these two earmarkings, total balances and reserves would be less than twice the precept.</p>
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