

Staple Parish Council - Annual Governance & Accounting Return 2023-24

Explanation of significant variances in the accounting statements – AGAR Section 2

Please explain any variances of more than 15% between the totals for individual boxes in Section 2.

Section 2	2022/23 £	2023/24 £	Variance (+/-) £	Detailed explanation of variance (for each reason noted please include monetary values (to nearest £100))
Box 2 <i>Precept</i>	7888	9464	+£1,576	20% increase The Council had not increased the precept in several years but had to increase to cover their expenditure and raise their reserves to pay for large highways projects.
Box 3 <i>Other income</i>	753	449	-£304	40% decrease No VAT reclaim was made in 2022/23. ✓
Box 4 <i>Staff costs</i>	3058	2721	-£337	Variance less than 15%
Box 5 <i>Loan interest/ capital</i>	0	0	0	Variance less than 15%
Box 6 <i>Other payments</i>	7859	4884	-£2,975	38% decrease In 2022/23, the Council spent £1789.60 on a Jubilee Event and made donations of £1897.58 to village organisations. Both of which were not made in 2023/24.
Box 7 <i>Balances carried forward</i>	1881	4190	+£2,309	If some of the year-end balances are earmarked for specific purposes rather than as a general reserve, please provide a breakdown. You do not need to explain the year-on-year variance for this box.
Box 9 <i>Fixed assets & long-term assets</i>	27611	27931	+£320	Village Hall gates – value of £320 – were missing from 2022-23 Asset List
Box 10 <i>Total borrowing</i>	0	0	0	Variance less than 15%