


**Herstmonceux Parish Council**  
**ANNUAL RETURN - Section 2 : Statement of Accounts**

**Explanation of variances**

This is prepared based on information in "Governance and Accountability for Local Councils : a Practitioner's Guide"

Important note: These figures have been prepared on an PAYMENTS and RECEIPTS basis.

Box No.	Description	31/03/2020 £	31/03/2021 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Notes
1	Balances brought fwd	168376.48	160368.62				BALANCE B/F AGREES
2	Annual precept	71109.00	86034.00	14925.00	21%	Yes	FCL_2020.01.07-The Finance and General Purposes Committee had given careful consideration of the of the contributing finance factors involved in setting the budget, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A more realistic projected income;</li> <li>• Devolution of services;</li> <li>• Acknowledgement of government cuts to funding to Parish Councils for delivery of local services necessary to meet the provision of communities' needs;</li> <li>• That the Herstmonceux Parish precept has been kept at a minimum increase for a number of years;</li> <li>• The successful introduction of the role of a Parish Council Handyman.</li> </ul>
3	Total other receipts	46379.59	110190.05	63810.46	138%	Yes	Total other receipts S106 funds of £50,918.51 for the Offsite Play Space Commuted Sum were not included in the budget. Additional local emergency grant income of approx £2,300 was successfully applied for in relation to COVID support activities. CIL income was higher than predicted and Allotment Fee collections were more successful than in previous years, partly due to having the Administration Assistant Support.
							

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4	Staff Costs	28606.84	37012.57	8405.73	29%	Yes	Staff Costs Increase in costs due to increased office hours for Clerk plus new staff member - Administration Assistant. Clerk additional hours and new Admin Support role proposed and implemented due to a combination of increase in offered services, COVID risk management, CIL and S106 project work. COVID complications especially un-foreseen at time of agreeing 2020-2021 budget.
5	Loan interest/capital repayments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	No	
6	Total other payments	96889.61	173940.55	77050.94	80%	Yes	Total other payments Higher than predicated costs for capital project works necessitated the use of some CIL income in addition to the spending of Reserves for the improvement works to the Recreation Ground Access Road and carpark. This included necessary drainage and additional environmental / hedge / asbestos removal safeguarding works
7	Balances carried forward	160368.62	145639.55	-14729.07	9%	No	
8	Total Cash and Short Term Investments	160368.62	145639.55	-14729.07	9%	No	
9	Total Fixed Assets and Long Term Investments	0.00	440052.22	440052.22	N/A	No	
10	Total Borrowings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	No	

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable



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BOX 10 VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED IF CHANGE CAN BE EXPLAINED BY BOX 5 (CAPITAL PLUS INTEREST PAYMENT)