

## Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Aston Clinton Parish Council**

County area: **Buckinghamshire**

Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all **Blue** highlighted boxes

Next, please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following that will be flagged in the green boxes where relevant:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
- **New from 2025/26 onwards:** variances of £500,000 or more in Box 3 require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year for smaller authorities with income and/or expenditure exceeding £6,500,000

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input, <b>DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES</b>	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	<b>415,824</b>	<b>342,049</b>				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	<b>317,326</b>	<b>317,326</b>	0	0.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	<b>147,121</b>	<b>114,583</b>	-32,538	22.12%	YES	See sheet named Box 3	
4 Staff Costs	<b>110,004</b>	<b>120,017</b>	10,013	9.10%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	<b>3,981</b>	<b>3,981</b>	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	<b>424,237</b>	<b>222,044</b>	-202,193	47.66%	YES	See sheet named Box 6	
7 Balances Carried Forward	<b>342,049</b>	<b>427,916</b>				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	<b>453,179</b>	<b>469,126</b>				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	<b>3,185,401</b>	<b>3,207,095</b>	21,694	0.68%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	<b>30,640</b>	<b>27,979</b>	-2,661	8.68%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable

## Aston Clinton Parish Council

Year Ending 31 March 2025 (unaudited)

	2024/25	2025/26	Variance	Explanation
Interest Received	£ 5,756	£ 12,939	£ 7,183	CCLA high interest fund was opened in January 2025. This is a full year of receiving benefit of the higher interest rate.
Grants & Donations	£ 6,606	£ 10,300	£ 3,694	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£1,000</b> Community grant for MVAS solar panel & <b>£5,606</b> donation from village society for white gates. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£100</b> donations from Santa's Float, <b>£3,200</b> Lottery funding for Hall heating upgrade & <b>£7,000</b> Police Commissions Grant for CCTV extension
Burial Ground	£ 7,550	£ 8,868	£ 1,318	Income based on number of burials in a given year.
Allotments	£ 1,013	£ 1,124	£ 111	Income based on number of allotment tenancies begun in a given year.
Café Base Rent	£ 25,000	£ 25,000	£ -	
Café Turnover Rent	£ 24,338	£ 31,841	£ 7,503	Council receive 10% of turnover. Park Café Turnover can fluctuate depending on weather
Churchill Hall Rent	£ 20	£ 20	£ -	
Football Pitch Permits	£ 5,450	£ 6,105	£ 655	Football permit fees for large clubs were increased in <u>25/26</u> .
All Weather Pitch Income	£ 1,344	£ 1,504	£ 160	The AWP is leased to AC Football Club and Council receive 10% of turnover.
Other Park Permits	£ 3,337	£ 3,580	£ 243	Same permit holders in both years but permit fee increased slightly .
Buildings Misc Income	£ -	£ 120	£ 120	<u>24/25</u> : no income required this year. <u>25/26</u> : £120 Contribution to churchyard gate post repair
Events & Grant Funding Received	£ 5,157	£ 5,078	-£ 79	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£3,598</b> grant funding for festival, <b>£160</b> Festival stalls & <b>£1,399</b> Festival concessions. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£3,200</b> grant funding for festival, <b>£292</b> Festival stalls, <b>£1,386</b> Festival concessions & <b>£200</b> Festival auction
Devolved Services	£ 6,198	£ 6,095	-£ 103	The amount received for Devolved Services is calculated by Bucks Council
S106 Grants	£ 23,377	£ 1,700	-£ 21,677	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£23,377</b> S106 grant towards outdoor gym equipment. <u>24/25</u> : <b>£1,700</b> grant toward community orchard
Dylan Memorial Sponsorship	£ 30,712	£ -	-£ 30,712	<u>24/25</u> : Payment from memorial fund toward the supply and installation of dual zip wire in park in memory of Dylan Mitchell. Project completed
Misc Income	£ 1,263	£ 310	-£ 953	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£77</b> sale of tractor, <b>£54</b> sale of printer, <b>£134</b> Tennis club contribution to elec cabinet update and gate rent, <b>£900</b> duplicate payment, <b>£68</b> projector screen refund & <b>£30</b> scrap metal payment. <u>24/25</u> <b>£300</b> duplicate payment & <b>£10</b> sale of office pedestal
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 147,121</b>	<b>£ 114,583</b>		

## Aston Clinton Parish Council

Year Ending 31 March 2026 (unaudited)	2024/25	2025/26	Variance	Explanation
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Contract Staff	£ 11,490	£ 13,343	£ 1,853	Cost is per hour worked. 25/26: weekly playpark inspection increasing hours worked
Member's Expenses	£ 113	£ 44	-£ 69	24/25: £23 get well card/flowers & £90 tankard for long serving councillor who retired from Council. 25/26: £5 parking fees & £39 mileage to external meetings
Insurance	£ 5,668	£ 5,923	£ 255	Increase in provider charges, no change to provision.
Office Electricity	£ 2,527	£ 2,417	-£ 110	Provision the same but storage heaters thermostats have been turned down in some areas
Office Waste/Water	£ 262	£ 231	-£ 31	No change to provision - charges on usage
Telephone & Broadband	£ 1,457	£ 1,429	-£ 28	No change to provision - charges on usage
Stationery & Office Supplies	£ 1,053	£ 924	-£ 129	24/25: no longer purchase printer ink as now lease printer which includes ink (see Computers& Office Equipment below). In addition to this saving, we did make a purchase of a new Burial Register at a cost of £333. 25/26: Usual supplies no large items purchased this year.
IT Support & Software	£ 2,800	£ 3,663	£ 863	25/26: Provision was as 24/25 except in March 2026 we changed providers increased Microsoft Office 365 licence level and migrated over to .gov.uk email addresses for all staff and councillors this lead to an additional cost of £731 - migration accounts and email creation and half month additional support costs of £96. Remaining £36 is inflation increase in regular charges.
Admin Contingency	£ 1,051	£ 14	-£ 1,037	24/25: £404 Coffee grounds recycling bags/stickers £20 confidential shredding, £18 land registry, £460 copyright infringement fine, £18 burial ground consecration papers & £131 staff mileage and car park fees. 25/26: £14: staff mileage to collect signs and paint
Office Maintenance/H&S	£ 270	£ 190	-£ 80	24/25: £140 PAT testing, £104 replacement cabinet & £26 replacement office doorbell. 25/26: £60 Fire extinguisher service, £30 Hi-Viz vests, £92 downpipe repair and £8 hot water signs
Computers & Office Equipment	£ 1,388	£ 1,968	£ 580	24/25: £1,189 new printer lease taken out cost for year based on usage, £90 computer mouse and battery & £109 office boot scraper. 25/26: £1,386 printer lease, £241 office chair, £19 office kettle, £16 paper trimmer, £143 laminator, £115: office tablet & £48 Key safe
Website	£ 675	£ 474	-£ 201	24/25: £240 website hosting, £270 .org.uk web name hosting, £160 newly added .gov.uk hosting & £5 noticeboard. 25/26: £240 website hosting & £234 org.uk web name hosting,
Postage	£ 12	£ 47	£ 35	24/25: £12 CCLA special delivery x2. 25/26: £35 40x2nd class stamps for sending out backdated EROBs for burial ground. £2 reg post to solicitors, £8 special delivery gate licences and grave kerbs notice & £2 special delivery bin keys to Bucks Council.
Office Cleaning	£ 760	£ 575	-£ 185	Cost is per hour worked. 25/26: Cleaner sick for some weeks so less hours worked
Training	£ 1,466	£ 1,348	-£ 118	Provision to meet the requirements of staff and councillors can fluctuate year on year - but always meets with council's training and development policy.
Membership Subscriptions	£ 1,346	£ 1,945	£ 599	24/25: £791 NALC, £35 ICO, £55 Nat Allotment Assoc, £360 SLCC £105 ICCM 25/26: £849 NALC , £439 SLCC (upgraded membership), £47 ICO, £105 ICCM, £10 Business Prime, and £495 for data protection toolkit membership.
APM/Elections/Public Meetings	£ 430	£ 1,718	£ 1,288	24/25: £69 ANPR public meeting & £361 ACPC gazebo. 25/26: £1,493 May 2025 Election costs & £225 APM costs
Payroll & Audit Services	£ 1,652	£ 1,990	£ 338	24/25: £402 payroll services, £1,050 external audit & £200 internal audit. 25/26: £1,365 external audit, £200 internal audit & £425 payroll services.

Legal/Professional Fees/Bank Charges	£ 45,596	£ 1,104	-£ 44,492	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£142</b> bank charges, <b>£1,500</b> RKP Lease additional legal fees & <b>£43,954</b> legal fees for Brandon Close planning appeal. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£152</b> bank charges our Barclays bank started charging from March 26, <b>£287</b> legal fee for bowls club lease renewal, <b>£50</b> NALC Council Award scheme registration, <b>£67</b> land registry titles/plans, <b>£522</b> RKP lease fees & <b>£26</b> Bank ID verification fees
Newsletters/Annual Review	£ -	£ 1,087	£ 1,087	<u>25/26</u> this costs centre was created in 25/26 <b>£1,087</b> Contribution to Village Community magazine
<b>FACILITIES</b>			£ -	
Repairs & Maintenance (Facilities)	£ 22,580	£ 25,476	£ 2,896	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£10,040</b> playpark/sport equip repairs, <b>£3,700</b> removal of trim trail; <b>£4,133</b> Tennis Club Elec cabinet upgrade, <b>£541</b> clock service/repair, <b>£1,838</b> 2x benches & 1x picnic table, <b>£743</b> on safety equipment & tools & <b>£1,585</b> supplies. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£2,565</b> playpark/sport equip repairs, <b>£925</b> relining small car park; <b>£2,050</b> repair to garage door, <b>£3,890</b> replacing car park knee rail, <b>£5,500</b> replacing bin store, <b>£850</b> Defibrillators, <b>£780</b> base for picnic bench, <b>£6,042</b> replace all park signage <b>£1,414</b> on safety equipment & tools & <b>£1,460</b> supplies.
Repairs & Maintenance (Buildings)	£ 24,316	£ 21,197	-£ 3,119	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£7,439</b> service contracts, <b>£1,420</b> repairs, <b>£14,967</b> installation of new AV system & <b>£490</b> installation of garage gutters. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£10,542</b> service contracts (now includes AV), <b>£1,472</b> repairs, <b>£2,506</b> RKP Churchill Hall & office gutter clearance, <b>£1,680</b> RKP Electrical Inspection <b>£3,497</b> installation of new heating in Churchill Hall & <b>£1,500</b> Churchill Hall cavity wall insulation.
Parks/Footpaths Grounds Main	£ 33,488	£ 31,528	-£ 1,960	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£24,456</b> park/footpaths grass cutting <b>£3,363</b> RKP & fountain gardening <b>£2,792</b> football pitches remedial work, <b>£2,350</b> park path repairs & <b>£527</b> weedkilling. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£25,146</b> park/footpaths grass cutting <b>£2,071</b> RKP & fountain gardening (period of 4 months where no gardener) <b>£3,098</b> football pitches remedial work, <b>£140</b> community orchard, <b>£781</b> clearance & <b>£292</b> weedkilling.
Allotments	£ 790	£ 637	-£ 153	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£516</b> allotment noticeboard, <b>£133</b> storage box, <b>£50</b> water provision & <b>£91</b> weed control mesh. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£260</b> Replace allotment gate post. <b>£120</b> allotment clearance, <b>£118</b> membrane, <b>£60</b> water tank repair <b>£79</b> National Allotment Association
Equipment & Tree Safety Surveys	£ 893	£ 5,252	£ 4,359	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£300</b> RoSPA inspection, <b>£319</b> flagpole safety check & <b>£274</b> stream bacterial testing. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£750</b> Tree survey, <b>£325</b> Flagpole safety check, <b>£795</b> RoSPAa inspection and we now have quarterly operational inspections and <b>£3,382</b> for Biodiversity survey.
Dog Bin Emptying	£ 1,973	£ 2,067	£ 94	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£1,973</b> same provision with slight increase in charge but without the credit from previous year. <u>25/26</u> : same provision but increase in charges from Bucks Council
Waste Bins Emptying	£ 5,094	£ 4,948	-£ 146	no change to provision cost based on number of visits to empty bins
CCTV Maintenance	£ 1,211	£ 326	-£ 885	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£859</b> CCTV recording machinery moved to a different location, <b>£195</b> annual service & <b>£157</b> mounting bar. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£195</b> annual service fee, <b>£120</b> call out for error and <b>£11</b> for extra column key.
Street Furniture Maintenance	£ 370	£ 269	-£ 101	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£266</b> new litter bin installed, <b>£35</b> bus stop repair & <b>£69</b> litter notices for bins. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£269</b> new bin at bus stop near c
Noticeboard Maintenance	£ -	£ 773	£ 773	cost code created in <u>25/26</u> to renovate, update and maintain noticeboard <b>£760</b> cost for 2 noticeboard to be renovated & <b>£13</b> for dehumidifier sachets for noticeboards
Car Park Electricity	£ 429	£ 368	-£ 61	<u>24/25</u> contract was agreed when energy rates were high. <u>25/26</u> : contract has better rates
Burial Ground Maintenance	£ 9,341	£ 3,447	-£ 5,894	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£3,300</b> grass cutting & <b>£6,041</b> repair to gate and pillars <u>25/26</u> : <b>£3,260</b> grass cutting, <b>£120</b> repair to gate post & <b>£67</b> green waste collection
Devolved Services	£ 11,134	£ 14,988	£ 3,854	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£8,739</b> grass cutting, <b>£645</b> siding out of pavements & <b>£1,750</b> clearing of rights of way. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£8,780</b> grass cutting, <b>£1,016</b> siding out of pavements & <b>£5,192</b> clearing of rights of way.
Tree Work	£ 2,200	£ 1,730	-£ 470	Contracted when required.
RKP Cleaning	£ 7,240	£ 7,240	£ -	same provision both years no change in charges
Streetlight Structural/Elec Survey	£ 4,005	£ -	-£ 4,005	<u>24/25</u> : 5- yearly structural and electrical survey of all streetlights.
Streetlight Maintenance	£ 3,422	£ 3,078	-£ 344	work carried out as required.

Streetlights Electricity	£ 17,038	£ 18,091	£ 1,053	<u>24/25</u> : We are part of a conglomerate with Bucks Council who entered into a new contract in October 2024 when energy rates were high. <u>25/26</u> : reflects full year in current contract.
Community Events	£ 14,925	£ 14,682	-£ 243	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£10,877</b> Family Festival, <b>£260</b> Santa's float, <b>£345</b> Xmas lights, <b>£765</b> Remembrance Service, <b>£960</b> Oct half term event, <b>£990</b> summer teen event & <b>£728</b> events equipment. <u>25/26</u> : <b>£11,359</b> Family Festival, <b>£236</b> Santa's float, <b>£233</b> Xmas lights, <b>£510</b> Remembrance Service, <b>£540</b> Oct half term event, <b>£212</b> Scarecrow Trail & <b>£1,592</b> Summer teen and child events
<b>GRANTS</b>			£ -	
ACPC Grant Giving	£ 21,948	£ 8,523	-£ 13,425	Provision of grants to the community fluctuates depending on grant applications submitted & approved.
<b>PROJECTS</b>			£ -	
S106 Grants: Outdoor Gym Equipment	£ 23,510		-£ 23,510	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£23,510</b> for installation of outdoor gym equipment.
S106 Grant: Community Orchard		£ 1,700	£ 1,700	<u>25/26</u> : <b>£1,700</b> installation of fencing at Community Orchard
Police Commissioners Grant: CCTV Extension		£ 2,090	£ 2,090	<u>25/26</u> : <b>£2,090</b> installation of the CCTV column and associated electrics
Lottery Grant: Churchill Hall Heating		£ 3,200	£ 3,200	<u>25/26</u> : <b>£3,200</b> part funding of upgrade to Churchill Hall heating
Dylan Memorial Zipwire	£ 30,712		-£ 30,712	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£30,712</b> for installation of a dual zipwire in park.
Village White Gates	£ 5,607		-£ 5,607	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£5,607</b> Contribution towards 6 white entrance gates to the village.
AWP Security Fencing	£ 12,365		-£ 12,365	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£12,365</b> Installation of additional security fencing around the all weather pitch.
Traffic Calming	£ -		£ -	<u>23/24</u> : <b>£986</b> Traffic survey for 20mph traffic calming.
Burial Ground Mapping	£ 1,345		-£ 1,345	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£1,345</b> Digital mapping of burial ground.
Defibrillator	£ 997		-£ 997	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£997</b> Defibrillator installed at guide hut.
<b>Spend from General Reserves</b>	<b>87,290</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>-£ 77,290</b>	<u>24/25</u> : <b>£2,290</b> solar MVAS & <b>£85,000</b> London Road traffic calming. <u>25/26</u> <b>£10,000</b> London Road traffic calming
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 424,239</b>	<b>£ 222,044</b>		