

**High Easter Parish Council**  
**Variance Analysis 2024/25**

Section 1	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
Box 1 <i>B/Fwd</i>	32,551	40,878	8,326	26	
Box 2 <i>Precept</i>	21,000	22,500	1,500	7	Inflationary increase to cover service cost increases
Box 3 <i>Other Receipts</i>	13,603	9,918	-3,685	-27	-£2.4k reduction for seated exercise class income in 2024/25, first year had been fully funded by grants, from year 2 parish council funds 50% -£1.1k one-off grant in 2023/24 for King's Coronation events -£0.7k less VAT to reclaim in 2024/25 +£0.3k increase in funding from Essex County Council for verge cutting +£0.3k interest received, parish council placed funds in a bank deposit account from July 2024
Box 4 <i>Staff Costs</i>	3,849	4,055	206	5	Salary increases in line with NALC/SLCC agreements
Box 5 <i>Loan Interest/ Cap Rep</i>	0	0	0	-	
Box 6 <i>Other Payments</i>	22,428	23,678	1,250	6	+£0.4k two years of hall hire for parish council meetings paid in 2024/25 -£0.3k subscriptions in 2024/25 due to closure of Stansted Airport Watch +£0.3k increase in contractor costs for verge cutting +£0.6k cost of tree survey in 2024/25 +£0.6k increase in contractor costs and changes to works included for playing field and meadow maintenance +£1.1k repainting historic highway finger post in 2024/25 -£1.5k seated exercise class, in 2023/24 used third party caterers for one term (£0.8k), this year all volunteers. Additional food/sundry costs £0.6k recorded net this year -£2.7k grants, 2023/24 included a one-off grant to the village hall towards solar panel installation -£1.4k Kings Coronation one-off event in 2023/24 +£2.1k purchase of two new defibrillators in 2024/25 via government scheme which reduced purchae price +£0.4k tree planting in meadow +£0.4k repairs to wooden soliders and verge markers, one-off costs in 2024/25 +£0.7k VAT to reclaim in 2024/25 +£0.3k increase in costs for green waste service +£0.2k additional costs this years for Christmas lunch and summer afternoon tea for elderly residents
Box 7 <i>Balances C/Fwd</i>	40,878	45,562	4,685	11	
Box 8 <i>Cash &amp; Short Term Invest</i>	40,878	45,563	4,685	11	
Box 9 <i>Fixed Assets &amp; Long Term Assets</i>	76,005	79,005	3,000	4	Purchase of two new defibrillators valued at full cost price
Box 10 <i>Borrowings</i>	0	0	0	-	
Explanation for 'high' reserves	Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because ..... High Easter parish council has a reserves policy. It earmarks reserves for the replacement of equipment/surfacing and additions for the play area, the reserve is £18k with works planned for a new area in 2025/26.				