

**Ecchinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green Parish Council**

**Year ending 31 March 2014**

Significant variations are used to explain differences of more than 5% or £500 - upwards or downwards - between the figures shown on the Annual Return for the current year and for the previous year.

**Significant Variation - Other Receipts**

Line 3: Variation of £4755 due to the following reasons:

<u>2012/2013</u>		<u>2013/2014</u>	<u>Difference</u>
1100	Limited general grant from Borough Council	1100	0
940	Grass cutting grant from Borough Council	940	0
390	Allotment rents	360	(30)
375	Grant for new website	0	(375)
0	Council tax grant from Borough Council	904	904
5	Donations received	0	(5)
0	VAT reclaimed	300	300
0	Payment from church re grass cutting	293	293
0	Litter grant from Borough Council	3668	3668
9	Bank interest	9	0
<b>2819</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7574</b>	<b>4755</b>

**Explanation**

There was no grant for the website from the Borough Council as this was a one-off grant received last year.

The Council Tax grant was not received last year; this is a new grant, following changes in the tax base.

VAT was claimed back this year; none was claimed last year.

There was a payment from the PCC for grass cutting at the old churchyard; no payment was received last year.

The litter grant was received from the Borough Council this year; there was no grant last year as the payment was made at the end of the previous financial year.

### Significant Variation - Other Payments

Line 6: Variation of £3061 due to the following reasons:

2012/2013		2013/2104	Difference
592	Setting up new website	0	(592)
307	Audit charges	270	(37)
696	Parish insurance	480	(216)
1032	Admin costs	2745	1713
222	Meeting costs	256	34
2793	Open spaces	4782	1989
300	Other payments	150	(150)
600	Allotment costs	898	298
273	Subscriptions	295	22
<b>6815</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9876</b>	<b>3061</b>

### Explanation

There was no cost involved in setting up the website, as this was a one-off cost last year.

The audit charge is lower following the introduction of the new audit arrangements.

The insurance charge is lower as we removed from our policy the gates and the wall at the old churchyard, which it was determined that the PC does not own. (The fixed assets value is accordingly reduced.)

The admin charges are higher largely because they include £1248 for the refurbishment of notice boards.

Open spaces costs are higher largely due to paying two years' grass cutting grants of £550 each to the Village Hall; they did not claim a grant last year. We also paid £660 for necessary work at the trees around the pond.

Other payments are lower because last year we made donations to two village events to celebrate the Jubilee, whereas this year we only made one donation, to the May Fair.

Allotment costs are higher because we spend money on repair work to the water system and we bought some equipment for use on the site. (This has been added to the fixed assets.)

## Significant Variation - Fixed Assets

Line 9: Variation of £21595 due to the following reasons:

2012/2013		2013/2104	Difference
2572	Bus shelter	2572	0
1666	Seat at war memorial	1666	0
5391	Five notice boards	5391	0
935	2x Oak bench	935	0
21795	Brick wall at churchyard and fence at war memorial	1000	(20795)
1382	Old churchyard gates	0	(1382)
10837	War memorial	10837	0
1850	2 x Map boards	1850	0
0	Strimmer	90	90
0	Hedge Trimmer	237	237
0	Mulcher	255	255
<b>46428</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24833</b>	<b>(21595)</b>

### Explanation

The brick wall at the churchyard and the old churchyard gates have been removed from our policy as it was determined that the Parish Council did not own the old churchyard. The fence at the war memorial remains on our policy.

Three items of equipment were bought for use on the allotment site.

## **Significant Variation – Precept**

Line 2: Variation of (£500) due to the following reason:

For the first time this year we received a Council Tax Grant of £904 from the Borough Council. The Councillors therefore took the opportunity of reducing the precept by £500 while maintaining the level of services provided to residents. The balance of the Council Tax Grant was used in allowing for inflation increases in costs and providing a sum towards future projects.