

LEWKNOR PARISH COUNCIL

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EXPLANATION OF VARIANCES 2022-23

Box 1 The difference of just over £39,000 is due mainly because during the year 2021-2022 Lewknor Parish Council spent a large amount of its CIL money upgrading the parish playground. This was a project which the parish council had been planning for more than a year but had had to delay due to Covid and the lockdowns. Other large and generally one-off items of expenditure were: nearly £5,000 for a new floor for the village hall (the only public meeting place in the parish); nearly £1,000 for professional fees involved in drawing up the parish's Neighbourhood Plan; around £1,000 for overtime for the Clerk for the preceding year (due to a lot of extra work because to covid, the lockdowns and the introduction of a new website and email address); and £2,000 spent on a new noticeboard to replace the badly rotting one in Lewknor village.

Box 2 Lewknor Parish Council (LPC) always considers its budget and precept year by year; and it was decided that after several years of a below-average precept, LPC needed to increase its precept by £5,000.

Box 3 The increase in LPC's receipts was due in part to a much larger than usual VAT reimbursement of £7,800 (due to the large expenditure mentioned in Box 1) and because LPC managed to secure grants totalling £1,600.

Box 6 The level of payments dropped significantly because this was a much quieter year after the large expenditure on the playground etc the year before.

Boxes 7&8 With less expenditure compared to the previous year and a higher precept and careful spending, LPC has been able to improve its end of year balance, although it must be noted that a lot of this is CIL money, which is ring-fenced for special projects and cannot be used for every day expenditure.

Barbara Drysdale

(Clerk and RFO)
Lewknor Parish Council

18th May 2023