

Deeping St James 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 INCOME and EXPENDITURE basis.

Box No.	Description	31/03/2025 £	31/03/2026 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Notes
1	Balances brought fwd	206043.77	234134.02				BALANCE B/F AGREES
2	Annual precept	212000.50	248324.40	36323.90	17%	Yes	The precept request was 16.6% higher in 2025/26
3	Total other receipts	124684.31	30180.78	-94503.53	76%	Yes	Grant funding was received in the financial year 2024/25 but NOT in the financial year 2025/26 £29,220 for the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan consultation/report £15,864.40 for 8 oak noticeboards £23,425 for the Jubilee Park consultation/design £10,860.82 towards biodiversity projects at Jubilee park and in DSJ Cemetery £15,602.29 Section 106 bus shelter monies
4	Staff Costs	117734.63	153438.88	35704.25	30%	Yes	From 1 April 2025 pay increases and increases in contracted hours meant that - Parish Clerk received £672.70 more Assistant Clerk received £345.74 more Maintenance Worker 1 received £4,553.59 more Maintenance Worker 2 received £6,927.45 more Maintenance Worker 3 received £276.15 more Employee/Employer Pension contributions were £4,152.85 higher PAYE and National Insurance contributions were £18,775.77 higher
5	Loan interest/capital repayments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	No	

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6	Total other payments	190859.93	142744.46	-48115.47	25%	Yes	<p>Payments in 2024/25 but NOT in 2025/26 as follows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two bus shelters, £11,760 Eight Oak noticeboards, £15,864 Flood containment equipment, £2,387.22 Jubilee Park consultation/design, £23,238 LCWIP for the Deepings, £24,150 Jubilee Park biodiversity project, £6,501 Cemetery biodiversity project, £1,348 <p>Payments in 2025/26 but NOT in 2024/25 as follows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Cemetery paths, £8,985.36 Skatepark repairs, £8,300 Electrical Installation Condition Report testing, £1,150.06 One Speed Indicator Devices converted to solar power, £1,790 Compensation claim legal fees, £3,991.50 Deepings Community Library grant increased, £1,500 Highway verge grass cutting costs increased, £2,464 Maintenance of trees was £2,054.33 higher Maintenance at the allotment site cost £2,297.44 more. The disposal of waste was £987.43 higher Vehicle costs were £1297.35 higher Professional membership fees were £1,421.96 higher Office rent increased by £897.50

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7	Balances carried forward	234134.02	216455.86	-17678.16	8%	No	
8	Total Cash and Short Term Investments	216596.85	209702.92	-6893.93	3%	No	
9	Total Fixed Assets and Long Term Investments	557230.00	564741.00	7511.00	1%	No	
10	Total Borrowings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	No	

This report is intended as a guide to the variances you may need to explain. The specific requirements vary between external auditors so please check the requirements shown on the pro forma provided to your council

Please note a breakdown of approved reserves will also be required if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept value (Box 2)