

KIDSGROVE TOWN COUNCIL – Variance Report – 2019-2020

	2018/2018 £	2019/2020 £	Variance	Explanation
Box 2 Precept	228177	231309	101%	
Box 3 Total Other receipts	53497	42361	79%	Total other receipts have reduced due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of S136 payment from Newcastle Borough Council - £6794 • Reduced income from hall and room hire partly due to Covid-19.
Box 4 Staff Costs	37503	66700	178%	In the 2018-2019 financial year, the Council was without a permanent clerk for much of the year and had no caretaker resulting in staff costs for that year being low. A permanent Clerk was employed in January 2019 and a caretaker in August 2020. (See box 6)
Box 5 Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	-	-
Box 6 All other payments	155946	117424	75%	The reduced level of other payments is due to the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2018-2019, the Council had a contract with another authority to use their Clerk as Proper Officer/RFO until January 2019, when a clerk was appointed (£12,258) • The service charge paid to Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council has reduced from £27,700 to £12,047 due to the Town Council taking on a more direct role in the building management. • The Town Council has now employed a caretaker (since Aug 2020) which has considerably reduced

				<p>contractor security costs from £21,393 in 2018-2019 to £3200 in 2019-2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several costly projects which span financial years were delayed in 2019-2020 due to Covid-19 and awaiting permissions from higher authorities.
<p>Box 7 Balances Carried Forward</p>	198784	288330	145%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council evaluated its earmarked reserves, especially relating to future maintenance of the Victoria Hall. In total, £30,000 was moved to earmarked reserves. • A recruitment program was delayed. The Council has identified a need for a further caretaker and two administration assistance. Recruitment will be progressed in 2020-21. • Several costly projects were delayed, in part to Covid-19. The unspent money returned to general reserves. The Council has since evaluated the budget effects of these delays and money has been moved from general reserves back into the relevant budget lines in July 2020. (Approx. £40,000 delay costs)
<p>Box 9 Total Fixed Assets plus Long Term Investments and Assets</p>	401500	403058	100.4%	<p>The change in value is due to acquisitions – see appendix 1</p>

Appendix 1 – Asset Register acquisitions

Addition of purchases/acquisitions:

Telephone box	1.00
Poly tunnel	151.00
QTX Portable PA 15 inch	331.67
Speaker Stand	33.33
Stagg microphone	24.96
PC Monitor	114.00
Fujitsu Computer	699.00
Projection screen 1250mm x 1250mm	44.26
Clerk's Manual	47.50
11th ed Local Council administration	112.00
TOTAL	1,558.72