Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all Blue highlighted boxes

Next, please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following that will be flagged in the green boxes where relevant:
• variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
• variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
• **New from 2025/26 onwards**: variances of £500,000 or more in Box 3 require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year for smaller authorities with income and/or expenditure exceeding £6,500,000

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input, **DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES**	**Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)**
		AMENDED					
1 Balances Brought Forward	28,306	25,612				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	Explanation for Amendments: There was an uncleared cheque of £3,930 for Heritage Lighting Matters which was issued in the 2024-25 financial year but only presented to the bank in the 2025-26 financial year. This was accounted for correctly in the 2024/25 payments but was incorrectly added to the 2024/25 balance carried forward total to reflect that the cheque hadn't yet been presented, which meant that it then had to be included in the 2025/26 payments total. This has now been amended to correctly reflect that the cheque expense is fully reflected in the year of issue (being 2024/25).
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	21,462	26,400	4,938	23.01%	YES		The precept increased by £4,938 (23% variance). The parish council had budgeted to take on more village maintenance responsibilities (as required by Somerset Council, as well as in support of the local churchyard) which accounted for £1,079 of the increase. Provision was made for the upkeep of new defibrillators which had been installed in the village, which accounted for £850 of the increase. Insurance was increased by £500 to cover the Heritage Lights and the Pelota Wall renovation
3 Total Other Receipts	842	3,746	2,904	344.89%	YES		Receipts increased by £2,904 (344% variance). The VAT reclaim of £1,144 was £417 higher than the previous year due to the purchase of Heritage lights at the end of the 2024/25 financial year. A donation of £2500 was received from the Reading Room Trust to contribute towards the costs in renovating the village's Pelota Wall, which was a £2,460 increase on the previous year's donations. These 2 receipts, together with a small increase in interest payments received, account for the exceptional increase in receipts for this financial year.
4 Staff Costs	5,260	5,498	238	4.52%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
		AMENDED					
6 All Other Payments	19,739	25,397	5,658	28.66%	YES		Payments increased by £5,658 (18.6% variance). Additional village maintenance responsibilities resulted in an increase of £2,712 for the Lengthman's services. There was also an increase of £1,300 towards the local churchyard upkeep, as this was felt to be an important aspect of maintaining a village in a conservation area. There were several further adjustments (both increases and decreases) accounting for the remainder of the increase in Payments, which can be provided on request, however the balance is within the 15% variance.
	AMENDED						
7 Balances Carried Forward	25,612	24,864				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
	AMENDED						
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	25,612	24,864				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments a	40,862	41,760	898	2.20%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable

BOX 10 VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED IF CHANGE CAN BE EXPLAINED BY BOX 5 (CAPITAL PLUS INTEREST PAYMENT)