

NOTICE OF CONCLUSION OF AUDIT

(LOCAL AUDIT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT 2014
ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REGULATIONS 2015)

FOR

Hertingfordbury Parish Council

NOTICE is hereby given that the audit for the
year ended 31 March 2016 was completed on

01 August 2016

and the accounts are now available for inspection by local electors
in accordance with Section 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.
The requisite information as defined by Section 13(1) of the Accounts and Audit
Regulations 2015 is/is not* displayed alongside this notice

(* Please delete as necessary)

If the requisite information is not displayed alongside
this notice, it is available for inspection by appointment.

To arrange a viewing please contact

MRS AMANDA GLEW
01438 798047

between the hours of 10am and 3pm

Dated: 11th August 2016

Signed: 

(Responsible Financial Officer)

Section 1 – Annual governance statement 2015/16

We acknowledge as the members of:

Enter name of
smaller authority here:

HERTINGFORD BURRY PARISH COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2016, that:

	Agreed		'Yes' means that this smaller authority:
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and proper practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this smaller authority to conduct its business or on its finances.	✓		has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with proper practices in doing so.
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this smaller authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		considered the financial and other risks it faces and has dealt with them properly.
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this smaller authority and, where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	NA
			✓
			has met all of its responsibilities where it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

This annual governance statement is approved by this smaller authority and recorded as minute reference:

4/2015/64.(d)
dated 13/4/2016

Signed by:

Chair

dated

Signed by:

Clerk

dated

Garry Perry
13/4/2016
Drew
13/4/2016

*Note: Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response. Describe how this smaller authority will address the weaknesses identified.

Section 2 – Accounting statements 2015/16 for

Enter name of
smaller authority here:

HERTINGFORDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2015 £	31 March 2016 £	
1. Balances brought forward	31451	33020	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	11678	12000	Total amount of precept or (for IDBs) rates and levies received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	6741	6703	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	3508	5356	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	NONE 13342	none	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the smaller authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	13342	11603	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	33020	34764	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6)
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	33020	34764	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	42310	42310	The original Asset and Investment Register value of all fixed assets, plus other long term assets owned by the smaller authority as at 31 March
10. Total borrowings			The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	The Council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets. N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2016 the accounting statements in this annual return present fairly the financial position of this smaller authority and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer

[Signature]

Date

11/5/2016

I confirm that these accounting statements were approved by this smaller authority on this date:

11/05/2016

and recorded as minute reference:

5/2016 13

Signed by Chair of the meeting approving these accounting statements.

[Signature]

Date

11/05/2016

Section 3 – External auditor certificate and report 2015/16 Certificate

We certify that we have completed our review of the annual return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2016 in respect of:

Enter name of
smaller authority here:

HERTINGFORDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

This smaller authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The smaller authority prepares an annual return in accordance with proper practices which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2016; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

Our responsibility is to review the annual return in accordance with guidance issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (see note below). Our work does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and does not provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.

External auditor report

~~(Except for the matters reported below)*~~ on the basis of our review of the annual return, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. ~~(*delete as appropriate)~~

~~(continue on a separate sheet if required)~~

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the smaller authority:

Please see enclosed report

BDO LLP Southampton
United Kingdom

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

External auditor signature

BDO LLP

External auditor name

BDO LLP Southampton
United Kingdom

Date

1/8/16

Note: The NAO issued guidance applicable to external auditors' work on 2015/16 accounts in Auditor Guidance Note AGN/02. The AGN is available from the NAO website (www.nao.org.uk)

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).

Introduction

The following matters have been raised to draw items to the attention of Hertingfordbury Parish Council. These matters came to the attention of BDO LLP during the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2016. This report must be presented to a full meeting of the smaller authority for review.

The audit of the annual return may not disclose all shortcomings of the systems as some matters may not have come to the attention of the auditor. For this reason, the matters raised may not be the only ones that exist.

The matters listed below are explained in further detail on the page(s) that follow;

- Minor issues
 - Box 11 not completed
 - Additions in year not included in Annual Return
-

The following issues have been raised as the comparatives have been changed.

Minor issues

What is the issue?

The following issue(s) has been raised as the comparatives have been changed:

The comparative figures disclosed in Section 2 of the Annual Return do not agree to the audited Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2015. The comparative figures for the year ended 31 March 2015 were restated. We have reviewed the adjustments made and we are satisfied they are correct.

Why has this issue been raised?

This is raised to bring the matter to the attention of readers of the annual return.

What do we recommend you do?

No further action is required.

Further guidance on this matter can be obtained from the following source(s):

Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England - A Practitioners' Guide, NALC/SLCC

No other matters came to our attention.

For and on behalf of
BDO LLP

Date: 01 August 2016

The following issue(s) have been raised to assist the council. The council is recommended to take action on the following issue(s) to ensure that the council acts within its statutory and regulatory framework.

Box 11 not completed

What is the issue?

The council has not answered box 11 in Section 2 of the annual return. We believe based on prior year information that the council should have answered 'No'.

Why has this issue been raised?

This is a note for the reader of the accounts to clarify that the council is not a sole trustee of any charities and also to ensure that the council answers this question in future. It does state on the form that no box should be left blank.

What do we recommend you do?

The council should ensure in future years that it answers 'No' to box 11, to confirm whether the council does act as the sole trustee of and is responsible for managing trust funds or assets.

Further guidance on this matter can be obtained from the following source(s):

Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England - A Practitioners Guide, NALC/SLCC

Additions in year not included in Annual Return

What is the issue?

The smaller authority has not included all additions or replacements of fixed assets, in the year in box 9 of Section 2 of the Annual Return.

Why has this issue been raised?

The value of fixed assets included in the Annual Return appears to be under valued.

What do we recommend you do?

The Practitioners Guide states that all assets should be held at cost. In future the smaller authority should review the current Practitioners Guide to ensure that they are accounting for assets correctly.

The cost value of assets is not expected to change unless an asset is ever disposed of or scrapped.

Further guidance on this matter can be obtained from the following source(s):

Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England - A Practitioners' Guide, NALC/SLCC
