

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR FINANCIAL YEAR APRIL 2015 - MARCH 2016

SECTION 1

EXPENDITURE EXCEEDING £100

ALL EXPENDITURE (INCLUDING EXPENDITURE OVER £100) INCURRED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL BETWEEN APRIL 2015 and MARCH 2016 IS REPORTED IN THE MONTHLY MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS PUBLISHED DURING THIS PERIOD

SECTION 2

ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

(APRIL 2015 - MARCH 2016)

APPENDIX 6

Councils' Accounts: A Summary of Electors' Rights

The basic position

By law any person interested has the right to inspect a smaller authority's accounts. If you are entitled and registered to vote in local council elections then you (or your representative) also have the right to ask the appointed auditor questions about the smaller authority's accounts or object to an item of account contained within them.

The right to inspect the accounts

When your smaller authority has finalised its accounts for the previous financial year it must make them available for inspection. Smaller authorities must tell the public including advertising this on their website that the accounts and related documents are available to inspect. You then have 30 working days to look through the accounting statements in the annual return and any supporting documents. The 30 day period must include a common period of inspection, the first 10 working days of July during which all smaller authorities accounts are available to inspect. This will be 1-14 July 2016 for 2015/16 accounts. By arrangement you will be able to inspect and make copies of the accounts and the relevant documents. You may have to pay a copying charge.

The right to ask the auditor questions about the accounts

You can only ask the appointed auditor questions about the accounts. The auditor does not have to answer questions about the smaller authority's policies, finances, procedures or anything else not related to the accounts. Your question must be about the accounts for the financial year just ended. The auditor does not have to say whether they think something the smaller authority has done, or an item in its accounts, is lawful or reasonable. You can only ask the auditor questions during the period for the exercise of public rights.

The right to object to the accounts

If you think that the smaller authority has spent money that they shouldn't have, or that someone has caused a loss to the smaller authority deliberately or by behaving irresponsibly, you can object to an item of account by sending a formal 'notice of objection' to the auditor, to the address below. The notice must be in writing. In it you must tell the auditor why you are objecting and what you want the auditor to do about it. The auditor must reach a decision on your objection. If you are not happy with that decision, you can appeal to the courts.

You may also object if you think that there is something in the accounts that the auditor should discuss with the smaller authority or tell the public about in a 'public interest report'. **You must give your reasons in writing** to the auditor at the address below and send a copy to the smaller authority no later than the end of the period for the exercise of public rights. The auditor must then decide whether to take any action. The auditor does not have to, but usually will, give reasons for their decision and you cannot appeal to the courts.

You may not use this 'right to object' to make a personal complaint or claim against your smaller authority. You should take these complaints to your local Citizens' Advice Bureau, local Law Centre or a solicitor.

What else you can do

Instead of objecting, you can give the auditor information that is relevant to their responsibilities. For example, you can simply tell the auditor if you think that something is wrong with the accounts or about waste and inefficiency in the way the smaller authority runs its services. You do not have to follow any set time limits or procedures. The auditor does not have to give you a detailed report of their investigation, but they will usually tell you the outcome.

A final word

Smaller authorities, and so local taxpayers, must meet the costs of dealing with questions and objections. In deciding whether to take your objection forward further, one of a series of factors the auditor must take into account is the costs that will be involved. They will only continue with the objection if it is in the public interest to do so. If you appeal to the courts, against an auditor's decision, you will have to pay for the action yourself.

For more detailed guidance on electors' rights and the special powers of auditors, copies of the publication *Council Accounts - a guide to your rights* are available from the National Audit Office's website.

If you wish to contact your smaller authority's appointed external auditor please write to: BDO LLP, Arcadia House, Maritime Walk, Ocean Village, Southampton, Hampshire SO14 3TL.

Section 1 – Annual governance statement 2015/16

We acknowledge as the members of:

Enter name of
smaller authority here:

HEVERSHAM 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.	✓		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:

77/16
dated 09/06/16

Signed by:

Chair



dated

09/06/16

Signed by:

Clerk



dated

09/06/16

*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.

NB The Accounting statements is unaudited and subject to change. *K D Challinor, RFO*

Section 2 – Accounting statements 2015/16 for

Enter name of smaller authority here:

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2015 £	31 March 2016 £	
1. Balances brought forward	8568	10405	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	8340	9976	Total amount of precept or (for IDBs) rates and levies received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	1597	1578	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	3098	2285	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	NIL	NIL	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the smaller authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	5002	6173	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	10405	13501	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	10405	13501	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	39096	39100	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	NIL	NIL	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.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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

K D Challinor

Date 12/04/2016

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

09/06/2016

and recorded as minute reference:

77/16

Signed by Chair of the meeting approving these accounting statements.

AMM

Date 09/06/16

Annual internal audit report 2015/16 to

Enter name of smaller authority here:

HEVERSTAM PARISH COUNCIL

This smaller authority's internal audit, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls expected to be in operation during the financial year ended 31 March 2016.

Internal audit has been carried out in accordance with this smaller authority's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of this smaller authority.

Internal control objective	Agreed? Please choose only one of the following		
	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been kept properly throughout the year.	✓		
B. This smaller authority met its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
C. This smaller authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	✓		
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	✓		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.	✓		
G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this smaller authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	✓		
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	✓		
I. Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	✓		
J. Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	✓		
K. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	✓		

For any other risk areas identified by this smaller authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas below or on separate sheets if needed)

Name of person who carried out the internal audit ALAN HADLEY

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit  Date 04/05/16

*If the response is 'no' please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

**Note: If the response is 'not covered' please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned, or, if coverage is not required, internal audit must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).