

Annual internal audit report 2015/16 to

Enter name of
smaller authority here:

ASSINGTON 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.	Yes	No	Not applicable
			✓

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)

* THERE WERE NO PETTY CASH PAYMENTS

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit Date

*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).

**Annual Report by the
Internal Auditor for Assington Parish Council
for the 2015/16 Financial Year**

Carried out by: Simon White - 20 The Street, Assington, Sudbury, Suffolk

Report to Assington Parish Council (APC)

Acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, I carried out a selective assessment of the compliance with the relevant procedures and controls expected to be in operation during the financial year ended 31st March 2016.

In following the process outlined within the Annual Return, I submit the following report with observations:

- Appropriate books of accounts were kept throughout the period under review with all receipts and payments, including VAT, being correctly approved and accounted for in the cashbook.
- Remittances and invoices supported all receipts and payments.
- The bank reconciliation and budget were regularly monitored throughout the year as well as the bank statement being checked against the reconciliation at each Council meeting.
- There were no petty cash items in the period reviewed.
- The annual precept requirement was based on a sound budgetary process and agreed at the APC meeting on 23rd November 2015.
- The Asset Register has been properly maintained and insurance risk assessed against the total value.
- Salary and allowances paid to the Clerk are in accordance with PAYE regulations.
- The year-end accounts have been prepared on a correct accounting basis, agreed with the cashbook and supported by an adequate audit trail. The year-end bank statement has also been prepared correctly.
- APC does not act as a sole trustee and therefore has no responsibilities as a trustee.
- All APC meetings were carried out correctly and members declared their interests where appropriate.
- The risk assessment is appropriate for the activities of the Council.

On the basis of my examination, it is my opinion that the system of internal controls is adequate and effective for Assington Parish Council's needs and planned coverage.



S. J. White

10th May 2016