

Smaller authority name: BAINBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS AND PUBLICATION
OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY
RETURN (EXEMPT AUTHORITY)
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Sections 25, 26 and 27
The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

| NOTES | NOTICE |
|--|--|
| <p>(a) Insert date of placing of the notice which must be not less than 1 day before the date in (c) below</p> <p>(b) Insert name, position and address/telephone number/ email address, as appropriate, of the Clerk or other person to which any person may apply to inspect the accounts</p> <p>(c) Insert date, which must be at least 1 day after the date of announcement in (a) above and at least 30 working days before the date appointed in (d) below</p> <p>(d) The inspection period between (c) and (d) must be 30 working days inclusive and must include the first 10 working days of July.</p> <p>(e) Insert name and position of person placing the notice – this person must be</p> | <p>1. Date of announcement <u>21/6/2023</u> (a)</p> <p>2. Each year the smaller authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). The AGAR has been published with this notice. It will not be reviewed by the appointed auditor, since the smaller authority has certified itself as exempt from the appointed auditor's review.</p> <p>Any person interested has the right to inspect and make copies of the AGAR, the accounting records for the financial year to which it relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those records must be made available for inspection by any person interested. For the year ended 31 March 2023, these documents will be available on reasonable notice by application to:</p> <p>(b) <u>Kate Little Clerk R.F.O.</u> <u>CHESFORD COURT BAINBRIDGE</u> <u>01969 650722 Kate.p.little@bainbridge-parish-council.com</u></p> <p>commencing on (c) <u>Monday 3rd July 2023</u></p> <p>and ending on (d) <u>Friday 11th August 2023</u></p> <p>3. Local government electors and their representatives also have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The opportunity to question the appointed auditor about the accounting records; and• The right to make an objection which concerns a matter in respect of which the appointed auditor could either make a public interest report or apply to the court for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful. Written notice of an objection must first be given to the auditor and a copy sent to the smaller authority. <p>The appointed auditor can be contacted at the address in paragraph 4 below for this purpose between the above dates only.</p> <p>4. The smaller authority's AGAR is only subject to review by the appointed auditor if questions or objections raised under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 lead to the involvement of the auditor. The appointed auditor is:</p> <p>PKF Littlejohn LLP (Ref: SBA Team) 15 Westferry Circus Canary Wharf London E14 4HD (sba@pkf-l.com)</p> <p>5. This announcement is made by (e) <u>Kate Little RFO Clerk</u></p> |

Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2022/23 for

Bainbridge Parish Council

| Year ending | | Notes and guidance | |
|---|---------------|--------------------|---|
| 31 March 2022 | 31 March 2023 | £ | £ |
| 1. Balances brought forward | 22,428 | 23,581 | 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 | 6,510 | 6,510 | Total amount of precept (or for LBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received. |
| 3. (+) Total other receipts | 11,989 | 8,531 | 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 | 2,671 | 2,384 | Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments. |
| 5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments | 0 | 0 | Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any). |
| 6. (-) All other payments | 14,675 | 7,139 | Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cash-book less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5). |
| 7. (=) Balances carried forward | 23,581 | 29,099 | 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 | 23,581 | 29,099 | 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 | 38,658 | 46,257 | The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March. |
| 10. Total borrowings | 0 | 0 | The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PwLB). |
| For Local Councils Only | Yes | No | N/A |
| 11a. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable) | | | The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets. |
| 11b. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable) | | | The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions. |

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2023 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

02/06/2023

Date

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

19/06/2023

as recorded in minute reference:

Minutes 20/6/23 Section 5.3

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

[Signature]

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

We acknowledge as the members of:

Bainbridge Parish Council

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for 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 2023, that:

| Agreed | | "Yes" means that this authority: | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----|
| Yes | No | Yes | No |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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 authority to conduct its business or manage its finances. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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 authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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. | |

*For any statement to which the response is 'no', an explanation must be published

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

19/6/2023

and recorded as minute reference:

Minutes 20/6/23 section 5.2

Chairman

[Signature]

Clerk

[Signature]
CATHY BARK (Clerk)

Signed by the Chairman and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Information required by the Transparency Code (not part of the Annual Governance Statement)

The authority website/webpage is up to date and the information required by the Transparency Code has

been published.

Yes No

www.bainbridgeparishcouncil.co.uk AVAILABLE WEBSITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

Annual Internal Audit Report 2022/23

Bainbridge Parish Council

www.bainbridgeparishcouncil.co.uk

AVAILABLE WEBSITE MESSAGE ADDRESS

During the financial year ended 31 March 2023, this authority's internal auditor acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with the relevant procedures and controls in operation and obtained appropriate evidence from the authority.

The internal audit for 2022/23 has been carried out in accordance with this 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 authority.

| Internal control objective | | Yes | No | Not covered** |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|----|----------------|
| A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| I. Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| 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. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2021/22, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2021/22 AGAR tick "not covered") | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| L. The authority published the required information on a website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the relevant legislation. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| M. In the year covered by this AGAR, the authority correctly provided for a period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (during the 2022-23 AGAR period, authority approved minutes confirming the dates set). | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2021/22 AGAR (see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes). | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| O. (For local councils only) | | | | |
| Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee. | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| | | Yes | No | Not applicable |

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

Date(s) internal audit undertaken

04/06/2023

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

JONNA REMNDS

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

J. Remnds

Date

14/06/2023

**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, the annual internal audit report must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).
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).