

Annual Internal Audit Report 2022/23

BISHOPTON PARISH COUNCIL
bishoptonvillage.co.uk

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.	YES		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	YES		
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	YES		
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	YES		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	YES		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.	YES		
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.	YES		
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	YES		
I. Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.	YES		
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.	YES		
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. <i>(If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2021/22 AGAR tick "not covered")</i>	YES		
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.	YES		
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 <i>(during the 2022-23 AGAR period, were public rights in relation to the 2021-22 AGAR evidenced by a notice on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set)</i> .	YES		
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2021/22 AGAR <i>(see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes)</i> .	YES		
O. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes	No	Not applicable
			N/A

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

15/05/2023

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

PETER WOOD F.C.A.

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

PWood

Date 15/05/2023.

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

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

We acknowledge as the members of:

BISHOPTON 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	No*	Yes' means that this 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.	YES				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.	YES				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 authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	YES				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.	YES				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 authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	YES				considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and 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.	YES				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.	YES				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 authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	YES				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	N/A		has met all of its responsibilities where, as a body corporate, it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.
			N/A		

***Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.**

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

24/05/2023

and recorded as minute reference:

496:2

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

Chairman



Clerk



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Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2022/23 for

BISHOPTON PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2022 £	31 March 2023 £	
1. Balances brought forward	12029	13615.	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	9206	9666	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	11847	18740	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	1951	1938	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	NONE.	NONE	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	17516	35707	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	13615.	4376	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	13615.	4376	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	49545	52704	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	NONE	NONE	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

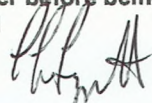
For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	N/A	
11a. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)		NO		The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
11b. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)			N/A	The figures in the accounting 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

Date

24/05/2023



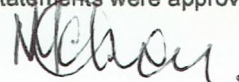
I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

24/05/2023

as recorded in minute reference:

49602

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



Section 3 – External Auditor’s Report and Certificate 2022/23

In respect of

BISHOPTON PARISH COUNCIL

1 Respective responsibilities of the auditor and the authority

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – <https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/>.

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2023; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

2 External auditor’s limited assurance opinion 2022/23

(Except for the matters reported below)* on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other 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 authority:

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

3 External auditor certificate 2022/23

We certify/do not certify* that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

*We do not certify completion because:

External Auditor Name

External Auditor Signature

Date

Bishopton Parish Council

Financial year ending 31 March 2023

Bank reconciliation

Prepared by PL Wood FCA ,Internal Auditor. Dated 15/05/2023

Balance per Bank Statements as at 31 March 2023

Current account.	£6958.55
Playground account	£983.86
Reserve account.	£1212.74

£9155.15

Petty Cash Float.	£91.73
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£9246.88

Less Unpresented Cheques

Cheque Number.	000011.	99.00	
	000776.	71.94	
	000777.	4700.00.	£4870.94

Net balances as at31 March 2023. £4375.94

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Bishopton Parish Council

Accounting Statement for year to 31 March 2023

Analysis of variations on Section 2 of Annual Return Box 3

Year ended.	2022.	2023
VAT repayment. (Note 1).	1606.	2465
Wayleaves.	601.	602
Grants from Banks. (Note 2).	9640.	740
From Playground Association. (Note3)	-	14700
Bank interest.	-	5
Donation. (Note4).	-	228
Total.	11847.	18740

Note 1 The amount of the VAT repayment reflects the level of Standard rated expenditure in a year

Note 2 Grants received from Banks Community fund vary depending on their approval of projects undertaken by the

Note 3 Bishopton Village Playground Association raised funds to give to the Parish Council to buy new playground equipment in 2023

Note 4 Donation flow to the Parish Council on an Ad Hoc basis and were £228 in 2023

Accounting statement for the year ended 31 March 2023

Analysis of variations on Section 2 of Annual Return

Box 6		2022.	2023
Playground maintenance.	(Note1).	1461.	409
Playground Equipment.	(Note2).	9930.	21573
Insurance.		407.	434
Parish News Subscription.		140.	70
Remembrance Day.		50.	50
Computer requisites.	(Note3).	439.	631
Village Green Landscaping.	(Note4).	1786.	8843
Christmas celebrations.		626.	618
Subscriptions.		137.	281
Postage ,Stationery & Travel.	(Note5).	213.	817
Major Projects.	(Note 6).	2209.	1528
Banks Community Fund.	(Note 7).	-	350
Telephone costs.		118.	103
Total.		17516.	35707

Note1 Playground maintenance costs were lower in 2023

Note2 Substantially more playground equipment was bought in 2023

Note3 2023 costs were higher due to the installation of Wi-Fi in the village hall

Note 4The cost of maintenance to the Village green was higher in 2023 due to major works being carried out.

Note5 Due to major projects in the village more travel expenses were paid in 2023

Note 6 In 2022 new benches were bought for £1802, Pads for Defibrillator for£86 & Bus shelter repair of £300 & some small sundries.In 2023 costs were paid out for the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations of £695,Speed Watch Safety Signs £400,Safety fencing hire £297 & various small sundries.

Note 7 Banks Community Fund grants administration fees of £350 were paid in 2023.