

The Parish of Alfrick and Lulsley

Annual Report of the Parish Council

2018-9

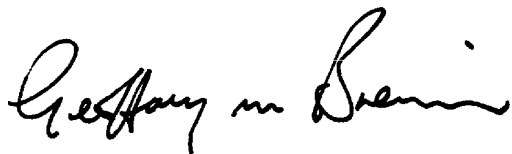
Contents

Government's requirements for smaller councils

Details required by the Government.

Approved by the Council at its meeting on 23/05/2019

Responsible Financial Officer



Chair



The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

The Act sets out a new audit framework for local public authorities which are currently covered by the Audit Commission regime. Under this new framework, smaller authorities with an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000, including parish councils, will be exempt from routine external audit. Instead, these parish councils will be subject to the new transparency requirements laid out in the Code.

This Code will act as an audit substitute, enabling local electors to access the information they need about the authority's accounts and governance in order to hold the authority to account. It is issued to meet the government's desire to place more power into citizens' hands to increase democratic accountability.

Public data that parish councils should publish

All items of expenditure Annual publication no later than 1 July.

Publish details of each individual item of expenditure.

Copies of cash books, vouchers and receipts, etc. do not need to be published but should remain available for inspection.

End of year accounts Annual publication no later than 1 July.

Publish signed statement of accounts according to the format included in the Annual Return audit form. It should be accompanied by:

- a) a copy of the bank reconciliation for the relevant financial year;*
- b) an explanation of any significant variances (e.g. more than 10-15 percent) in the statement of accounts for the relevant year and previous year; and*
- c) an explanation of any differences between 'balances carried forward' and 'total cash and short term investments', if applicable.*

Annual governance statement Annual publication no later than 1 July.

Publish signed annual governance statement according to the format included in the Annual Return audit form. Explain any negative responses to governance statements, including how any weaknesses will be addressed.

Internal audit report Annual publication no later than 1 July.

Publish internal audit report according to the format included in the Annual Return audit form. It should be signed by the person who carried out the internal audit.

Explain any negative response to the internal controls objectives, including how any weaknesses will be addressed.

Explain any 'not covered' responses to internal controls objectives.

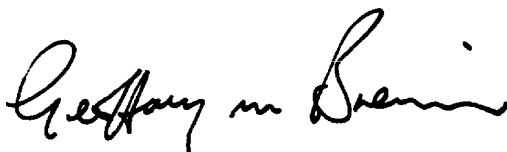
Publish any additional internal audit report, where available.

Location of public land and building assets Annual publication no later than 1 July.

Publish details of all public land and building assets – either in the authority's full asset and liabilities register or as an edited version. Information should include:

- a) description (what it is, including size/acreage);*
- b) location (address or description of location);*
- c) owner / custodian, e.g. the authority manages the land or asset on behalf of a local charity;*

This council meets all these obligations.



Clerk to the Council 1/5/2019

ALFRICK & LULSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 21 MAY 2019.

I am Brian Martin and it has been my pleasure to chair the Alfrick & Lulsley Parish Council for the past year. I wish to thank my fellow councillors for their support during the year and also to our clerk who has diligently dealt with administration matters.

The Council has discharged its local duties always with the intention of securing the continued preservation of the amenities we enjoy. We have been very well supported by our local District Councillors, Sarah Rouse and Anthony Warburton and by our County Councillor Paul Tuthill.

During the year the Parish Council administered the limited funds available from the Parish precept. This enabled support to the village hall and its car park as well as the village shop. This combination can now truly be considered to be the village hub.

Planning matters have again this year exercised our attention where the endeavour has been to maintain the character and beauty of the neighbourhood. Careful attention was paid to the development at Chapel Meadow in order to ensure the continuation of the wildlife habitats contained within the site including the protected great crested newts. One development, at Clay Green Farm, is still the subject of considerable debate relating to its currently unacceptable features.

The Parish Council continues to administer the upkeep and provision of the playing field, the Jubilee Copse/Spinney, the War Memorial and the Pound at Alfrick Pound.. In line with national sentiment efforts are now being made to create at the Playing Field and at other locations in the village, to protect areas of natural vegetation to promote wildlife habitats including pollinators. Some local landowners are interested in supporting this initiative which is being led by our newly elected Councillor Carol Bradley, who has a pollinators group formed.

The subject of vehicle speeds through the village is a matter raised often by residents, and resulting from a meeting with the police we are investigating the setting up of a Community Speed Watch team which would require six people to form the group. Meanwhile we have a stock of 30MPH stickers available FOC in the shop.

Our village is mostly tidy but a Parish Litter pick was organised on 23rd March which was considered to be good fun and very effective.

The council expects to receive Section 106 Planning funding arising from the Chapel Meadow development and is considering options for its disbursement. Currently a small children's playground is featuring strongly.

B W Martin
08 05 2019.

Alfrick & Lulsley Parish Council

Asset Register

Ref No.	Description	Location	Original Date	Asset Value	Replacement Value £	Deeds etc/ Location	Comments
1	War Memorial - Alfrick Green	WR6 SHW	1919	19000	19000	Not Known	As advised by Wells Masonry 3 April 2006
2	Playing Field	WR6 SHJ	1953	3		With Clerk	Aprox 8500 sq.m Valued at £1/acre for accounting purposes
3	Jubilee Plantation - Knightwick Road	WR6 SHX	1980	1		WW&F	Aprox 200 sq.m Valued at £1/acre for accounting purposes
4	Bus Shelter - Alfrick Pound	WR6 SEZ	1953	2700	2700	Not Known	
5	Land at Clay Green - Old Bus Shelter	WR6 SHW	1962	1		With Clerk	2m x 3m - No value but could be a 'ransom strip' at a future date:
6	Public Address System		2001	200	200	With Clerk	Purchased 2001 - £170
7	Notice Board - Lulsley	WR6 5QT	2003	300	300	In Situ	Purchased 2004 - £260
8	Notice Board - Bridges Stone	WR6 5HR	2003	300	300	In Situ	Purchased 2004 - £260
9	Notice Board - Alfrick Village Shop	WR6 5HJ	2000	300	300	In Situ	Purchased 2013 - £300
10	100 paid-up £10 Shares - Alfrick and Lulsley Community Shop		2011	1	1	With Clerk	Cannot be traded - Nominal or long-term value only
					22806		

* WW&F - Whatley Weston and Fox - Solicitors, The Tything, Worcester

Revised 27/04/06 War Memorial replacement value increased to £19000

Confirmed-

e. H. Williams

Chairman

Geffrey M. Linn

Clerk & RFO

Details of Council Members, Appointment to external bodies, and Officers.

The Council was elected on May 7th 2015.

(All tel. Nos. + 01886)

Chair: Brian W Martin 833180 Elected Alfrick Ward
Represents the Council - Alfrick and Lulsley Community Shop Management Committee

Vice Chair: Andrew Cooper 833903 Elected Alfrick Ward

Nigel Tudge 822284 Co-opted Lulsley Ward

Anthony J Crockford 833594 Elected Alfrick Ward

Brian J Fishwick 832617 Elected Alfrick Ward
Represents the Council - Alfrick and Lulsley Village Hall Management Committee

Barbra Brown 832902 Co-opted Alfrick Ward

Garth Lowe 833362 Elected Alfrick Ward
Parish Footpaths Warden

Edward G Mutter 822238 Elected Lulsley Ward

Louise J Randall 884667 Elected Alfrick Ward

Clerk to the Council

Geoffrey M Brewin, C Eng, CiLCA.
Whistlewood House, Lulsley, Knightwick,
Worcester. WR6 5QT 821386
email, geoffreybrewin@waitrose.com

Not a member of the council but supported by it:

Parish Tree Warden - Derek Bradley, 884372

Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council

NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS AND PUBLICATION OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (EXEMPT AUTHORITY)

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

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

NOTICE	NOTES
<p>1. Date of announcement 31st May 2019(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. 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 2019, these documents will be available on reasonable notice by application to:</p> <p>(b) Geoffrey M Brewin Clerk to the Council Whistlewood House, Lulsley Knightwick Worcester WR6 5QT Tel 01886 821 386</p> <p>commencing on (c) Monday 2nd July 2019</p> <p>and ending on (d) Friday 10th August 2019</p> <p>3. Local government electors and their representatives also have:</p> <p>The opportunity to question the appointed auditor about the accounting records; and</p> <p>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> <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) 1 Westferry Circus Canary Wharf London E14 4HD (sba@pkf-littlejohn.com)</p> <p>5. This announcement is made by (e) Geoffrey M Brewin, Clerk and RFO</p>	<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 the responsible financial officer for the smaller authority</p>

LOCAL AUTHORITY ACCOUNTS: A SUMMARY OF YOUR RIGHTS

Please note that this summary applies to all relevant smaller authorities, including local councils, internal drainage boards and ‘other’ smaller authorities.

The basic position

The [Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014](#) (the Act) governs the work of auditors appointed to smaller authorities. This summary explains the provisions contained in Sections 26 and 27 of the Act. The Act and the [Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015](#) also cover the duties, responsibilities and rights of smaller authorities, other organisations and the public concerning the accounts being audited.

As a local elector, or an interested person, you have certain legal rights in respect of the accounting records of smaller authorities. As an interested person you can inspect accounting records and related documents. If you are a local government elector for the area to which the accounts relate you can also ask questions about the accounts and object to them. You do not have to pay directly for exercising your rights. However, any resulting costs incurred by the smaller authority form part of its running costs. Therefore, indirectly, local residents pay for the cost of you exercising your rights through their council tax.

The right to inspect the accounting records

Any interested person can inspect the accounting records, which includes but is not limited to local electors. You can inspect the accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those records. You can copy all, or part, of these records or documents. Your inspection must be about the accounts, or relate to an item in the accounts. You cannot, for example, inspect or copy documents unrelated to the accounts, or that include personal information (Section 26 (6) – (10) of the Act explains what is meant by personal information). You cannot inspect information which is protected by commercial confidentiality. This is information which would prejudice commercial confidentiality if it was released to the public and there is not, set against this, a very strong reason in the public interest why it should nevertheless be disclosed.

When smaller authorities have finished preparing accounts for the financial year and approved them, they must publish them (including on a website). There must be a 30 working day period, called the ‘period for the exercise of public rights’, during which you can exercise your statutory right to inspect the accounting records. Smaller authorities must tell the public, including advertising this on their website, that the accounting records and related documents are available to inspect. By arrangement you will then have 30 working days to inspect and make copies of the accounting records. You may have to pay a copying charge. The 30 working day period must include a common period of inspection during which all smaller authorities’ accounting records are available to inspect. This will be 1-12 July 2019 for 2018/19 accounts. The advertisement must set out the dates of the period for the exercise of public rights, how you can communicate to the smaller authority that you wish to inspect the accounting records and related documents, the name and address of the auditor, and the relevant legislation that governs the inspection of accounts and objections.

The right to ask the auditor questions about the accounting records

You should first ask your smaller authority about the accounting records, since they hold all the details. If you are a local elector, your right to ask questions of the external auditor is enshrined in law. However, while the auditor will answer your questions where possible, they are not always obliged to do so. For example, the question might be better answered by another organisation, require investigation beyond the auditor’s remit, or involve disproportionate cost (which is borne by the local taxpayer). Give your smaller authority the opportunity first to explain anything in the accounting records that you are unsure about. If you are not satisfied with their explanation, you can question the external auditor about the accounting records.

The law limits the time available for you formally to ask questions. This must be done in the period for the exercise of public rights, so let the external auditor know your concern as soon as possible. The advertisement or notice that tells you the accounting records are available to inspect will also give the period for the exercise of public rights during which you may ask the auditor questions, which here

means formally asking questions under the Act. You can ask someone to represent you when asking the external auditor questions.

Before you ask the external auditor any questions, inspect the accounting records fully, so you know what they contain. Please remember that you cannot formally ask questions, under the Act, after the end of the period for the exercise of public rights. You may ask your smaller authority other questions about their accounts for any year, at any time. But these are not questions under the Act.

You can ask the external auditor questions about an item in the accounting records for the financial year being audited. However, your right to ask the external auditor questions is limited. The external auditor can only answer 'what' questions, not 'why' questions. The external auditor cannot answer questions about policies, finances, procedures or anything else unless it is directly relevant to an item in the accounting records. Remember that your questions must always be about facts, not opinions. To avoid misunderstanding, we recommend that you always put your questions in writing.

The right to make objections at audit

You have inspected the accounting records and asked your questions of the smaller authority. Now you may wish to object to the accounts on the basis that an item in them is in your view unlawful or there are matters of wider concern arising from the smaller authority's finances. A local government elector can ask the external auditor to apply to the High Court for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful, or to issue a report on matters which are in the public interest. You must tell the external auditor which specific item in the accounts you object to and why you think the item is unlawful, or why you think that a public interest report should be made about it. You must provide the external auditor with the evidence you have to support your objection. Disagreeing with income or spending does not make it unlawful. To object to the accounts you must write to the external auditor stating you want to make an objection, including the information and evidence below and you must send a copy to the smaller authority. The notice must include:

- confirmation that you are an elector in the smaller authority's area;
- why you are objecting to the accounts and the facts on which you rely;
- details of any item in the accounts that you think is unlawful; and
- details of any matter about which you think the external auditor should make a public interest report.

Other than it must be in writing, there is no set format for objecting. You can only ask the external auditor to act within the powers available under the [Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014](#).

A final word

You may not use this 'right to object' to make a personal complaint or claim against your smaller authority. You should take such complaints to your local Citizens' Advice Bureau, local Law Centre or to your solicitor. Smaller authorities, and so local taxpayers, meet the costs of dealing with questions and objections. In deciding whether to take your objection forward, one of a series of factors the auditor must take into account is the cost that will be involved, they will only continue with the objection if it is in the public interest to do so. They may also decide not to consider an objection if they think that it is frivolous or vexatious, or if it repeats an objection already considered. If you appeal to the courts against an auditor's decision not to apply to the courts for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful, you will have to pay for the action yourself.

For more detailed guidance on public rights and the special powers of auditors, copies of the publication Local authority accounts: A guide to your rights are available from the NAO website.	If you wish to contact your authority's appointed external auditor please write to the address in paragraph 4 of the <i>Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return</i> .
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Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19 Part 2

To be completed only by Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other smaller authorities* where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure was £25,000 or less, that meet the qualifying criteria, and that wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review

Guidance notes on completing Part 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19

1. Every smaller authority in England where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure was £25,000 or less **must** following the end of each financial year, complete Part 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices*, unless the authority:
 - a) does not meet the qualifying criteria for exemption; or
 - b) does not wish to certify itself as exempt
2. Smaller authorities where the higher of gross annual income or gross annual expenditure **does not exceed** £25,000 and that meet the qualifying criteria as set out in the Certificate of Exemption **are able to declare themselves exempt** from sending the completed Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor for a limited assurance review **provided** the authority **completes**:
 - a) The **Certificate of Exemption**, page 3 and returns a copy of it to the external auditor **either** by email or by post (not both); and
 - b) The **Annual Governance and Accountability Return (Part 2)** which is made up of:
 - **Annual Internal Audit Report (page 4)** to be completed by the authority's internal auditor.
 - **Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement (page 5)** to be completed and approved by the authority.
 - **Section 2 – Accounting Statements (page 6)** to be completed and approved by the authority.**NOTE: Authorities certifying themselves as exempt SHOULD NOT send the completed Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor.**
3. The authority **must** approve Section 1 Annual Governance Statement before approving Section 2 Accounting Statements and both **must** be approved and published on a website **before 1 July 2019**.

Publication Requirements

Smaller authorities **must** publish various documents on a public website as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities. These include:

- **Certificate of Exemption**, page 3
- **Annual Internal Audit Report 2018/19**, page 4
- **Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19**, page 5
- **Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19**, page 6
- Analysis of variances
- Bank reconciliation
- Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and other information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

Limited Assurance Review

Providing the authority certifies itself as exempt, and completes and publishes the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, there is **no** requirement for the authority to have a limited assurance review.

Any smaller authority may, however, request a limited assurance review. In these circumstances the authority should **not certify itself as exempt, and not complete the** Certificate of Exemption, but complete Part 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19 and return it to the external auditor for review together with the supporting documentation requested by the external auditor.

The cost to the smaller authority for the review will be **£200 +VAT**.

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return constitutes the annual return referred to in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. Throughout, the words 'external auditor' have the same meaning as the words 'local auditor' in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

*for a complete list of bodies that may be smaller authorities refer to schedule 2 to the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Guidance notes on completing Part 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19, Sections 1 and 2

- An authority that wishes to declare itself exempt from the requirement for a limited assurance review must do so at a meeting of the authority after 31 March 2019. It should not submit its Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor. However, as part of a more proportionate regime, the authority **must** comply with the requirements of the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities.
- The authority **must** comply with Proper Practices in completing Sections 1 and 2 of this Annual Governance and Accountability Return and the Certificate of Exemption. Proper Practices are found in the *Practitioners' Guide** which is updated from time to time and contains everything needed to prepare successfully for the financial year-end.
- The authority **should** receive and note the annual internal audit report if possible prior to approving the annual governance statement and before approving the accounts.
- Make sure that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is complete (i.e. no empty highlighted boxes), and is properly signed and dated. Avoid making amendments to the completed annual return. Any amendments must be approved by the authority and properly initialled.
- Use the checklist provided below to review the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for completeness at the meeting at which it is signed off.
- **You should inform your external auditor about any change of Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer or Chairman, and provide relevant email addresses and telephone numbers.**
- It is recommended that the authority has numerical and narrative explanations for significant variances in the accounting statements on **page 6**, should a question be raised by a member of the public. There is guidance provided in the *Practitioners' Guide** that may assist.
- Make sure that the accounting statements add up and the balance carried forward from the previous year (Box 7 of 2018) equals the balance brought forward in the current year (Box 1 of 2019).
- The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), on behalf of the authority, **must** set the commencement date for the exercise of public rights. From the commencement date for a single period of 30 consecutive working days, the approved accounts and accounting records can be inspected. Whatever period the RFO sets **must** include a common inspection period – during which the accounts and accounting records of all smaller authorities must be available for public inspection – of the first ten working days of July.
- The authority **must** publish the information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, including the period for the exercise of public rights and the name and address of the external auditor **before 1 July 2019**.

Completion checklist – 'No' answers mean you may not have met requirements		Yes	No
All sections	Have all highlighted boxes been completed?		
	Have the dates set for the period for the exercise of public rights been published?		
Internal Audit Report	Have all highlighted boxes been completed by the internal auditor and explanations provided?		
Section 1	For any statement to which the response is 'no', is an explanation available should a question be raised by a local elector and/or an interested party?		
Section 2	Has the authority's approval of the accounting statements been confirmed by the signature of the Chairman of the approval meeting?		
	Is an explanation of significant variations from last year to this year available, should a question be raised by a local elector and/or an interested party?		
	Is an explanation of any difference between Box 7 and Box 8 available, should a question be raised by a local elector and/or an interested party?		
Sections 1 and 2	Trust funds – have all disclosures been made if the authority as a body corporate is a sole managing trustee? (<i>Local Councils only</i>)		

* *Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices*, can be downloaded from www.nalc.gov.uk or from www.ada.org.uk

Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2018/19 Part 2

To be completed by smaller authorities where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure did not exceed £25,000 in the year of account ended 31 March 2019, and that wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015

There is no requirement to have a limited assurance review or to submit an Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor, **provided** that the authority has certified itself as exempt at a meeting of the authority after 31 March 2019 and a completed Certificate of Exemption is submitted notifying the external auditor.

Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council

certifies that during the financial year 2018/19, the higher of the authority's gross income for the year **or** gross annual expenditure, for the year did not exceed **£25,000**

Annual gross income for the authority 2018/19: £16,490

Annual gross expenditure for the authority 2018/19: £13,039

There are certain circumstances in which an authority will be **unable to certify itself as exempt**, so that a limited assurance review will still be required. If an authority **is unable to confirm the statements below then it cannot certify itself as exempt** and it **must** submit the completed Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 3 to the external auditor to undertake a limited assurance review for which a fee of **£200 +VAT** will be payable.

By signing this **Certificate of Exemption** you are confirming that:

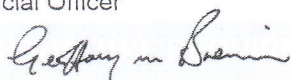
- The authority has been in existence since before 1st April 2015
- In relation to the preceding financial year (2017/18), the external auditor **has not**:
 - issued a public interest report in respect of the authority or any entity connected with it
 - made a statutory recommendation to the authority, relating to the authority or any entity connected with it
 - issued an advisory notice under paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 8 to the Audit and Accountability Act 2014 ("the Act"), and has not withdrawn the notice
 - commenced judicial review proceedings under section 31(1) of the Act
 - made an application under section 28(1) of the Act for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful, and the application has not been withdrawn nor has the court refused to make the declaration
- The court has not declared an item of account unlawful after a person made an appeal under section 28(3) of the Act.

If you are able to confirm that the above statements apply and that the authority neither received gross income, nor incurred gross expenditure, exceeding £25,000, then the Certificate of Exemption can be signed and a copy submitted to the external auditor **either** by email **or** by post (not both).

The Annual Internal Audit Report, Annual Governance Statement, Annual Accounting Statements, an analysis of variances and the bank reconciliation plus the information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 including the period for the exercise of public rights still need to be fully completed and, along with a copy of this certificate, published on a public website* before 1 July 2019. **By signing this certificate you are also confirming that you are aware of this requirement.**

Signed by the Responsible Financial Officer

Date



04/04/2019

Signed by Chairman

Date



25/04/2019

Email

Telephone number

geoffreybrewin@waitrose.com

01886 821 386

*Published web address

<http://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish/> - Alfrick

ONLY this Certificate of Exemption should be returned EITHER by email OR by post (not both) as soon as possible after certification to your external auditor.

Annual Internal Audit Report 2018/19

Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council

This authority's internal auditor, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls to be in operation **during** the financial year ended 31 March 2019.

The internal audit for 2018/19 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	Agreed? Please choose one of the following		
	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.	✓		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
C. This 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.			MA
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.	✓		
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. IF the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2017/18, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (<i>"Not Covered" should only be ticked where the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2017/18 AGAR</i>)	✓		
L. During summer 2018 this authority has correctly provided the proper opportunity for the exercise of public rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.			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

24/05/19

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

DR LINDA COTTERILL FCA

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit



Date

24/05/19

*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 2018/19

We acknowledge as the members of:

Alfrick and Lulsley 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 2019, that:

	Agreed		'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.	✓		<i>prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.</i>
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		<i>made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.</i>
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.	✓		<i>has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.</i>
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.	✓		<i>during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.</i>
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.	✓		<i>considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.</i>
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		<i>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.</i>
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		<i>responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.</i>
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.	✓		<i>disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.</i>
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
			✓
			<i>has met all of its responsibilities where as a body corporate it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.</i>

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

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

25/04/2019

and recorded as minute reference:

4 (b)

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

Chairman



Clerk



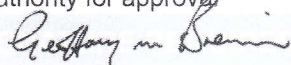
Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19 for

Alfrick and Lulsley Parish Council

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2018 £	31 March 2019 £	
			<i>Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures must agree to underlying financial records.</i>
1. Balances brought forward	11,317	17,997	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	12,840	12,840	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	4,478	3,650	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	3,913	4,054	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	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	6,725	8,985	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	17,997	21,448	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	17,997	21,448	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	22,806	22,806	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).
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	The Council as a body corporate acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets. <i>N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.</i>
		✓	

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2019 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

04/04/2019

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

25/04/2019

as recorded in minute reference:

4 (c)

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



Alfrick & Lulsley Parish Council
Receipts and Payments for yr. 2018-9

For comparison

Account	2018-9 Receipts	2017-8 Receipts
MHDC Precept	12840.00	12840.00
Parish Lengthsman Income from WCC	1512.00	1632.00
Sundry Income	1250.00	500.00
VAT Refund	688.30	2125.72
Old Storridge Charity income	200.04	220.46
Old Storridge Charity donations	0.00	0.00
Total Receipts	16490.34	17318.18

Account	Expenditure	Expenditure
Audit	50.00	150.00
Clerk Expenses	82.00	70.00
Office Costs	578.84	460.84
Clerk Salary	3972.40	3843.00
Donations	0.00	0.00
Election Fees	0.00	0.00
Footpaths	0.00	0.00
Insurance	569.30	525.61
Jubilee Plantation	0	0.00
Meeting Expenses	212.50	346.60
Other Expenses	3284.00	1431.89
Parish Lengthsman	1512.00	1632.00
Parish Tree Warden	124.72	0.00
Playing Field Maintenance	885.00	885.00
Subscriptions	357.63	329.88
VAT	1159.19	697.82
War Memorial Mtce	252.00	265.40
Total Payments	13039.58	10638.04
Surplus +/-Deficit -	3450.76	6680.14

<u>Balance brought fwd</u>	17997.18	10243.19
<u>Balance at Yr-End</u>	21447.94	17997.18

Outstanding Cheques at Yr-end

780 Lost	130.00
782 u/paid	144.00
783 u/paid	299.38
784 Lost	124.00
785 u/paid	158.40
Clerk Salary – March u/paid	333.19

Outstanding Invoices at Yr-end

WCC – L/Man acct, Jan	120.00
WCC – L/Man acct, Feb	120.00
WCC – L/Man acct, March	132.00
Total	816.97

<u>Bank account at Yr-end</u>	22264.91
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Agreed
S.W. Munt
 25/4/19

Geoffrey M. Brown

05/04/19 Clerk & RFO

A&L 2018

01/04/2018 Through 31/03/2019 (in Pound)

24/04/2019

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Date	Account	Num	Description	Category	Amount
INCOME					
Old Storridge Charity					
31/05/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		M&G Charities	Old Storridge Charity	40.31
20/06/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Blackrock Dvd OSRAC	Old Storridge Charity	7.01
31/08/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		M&G Charities	Old Storridge Charity	40.31
20/09/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Blackrock Dvd OSRAC	Old Storridge Charity	7.01
14/12/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		M&G Charities	Old Storridge Charity	62.35
20/12/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Blackrock Dvd OSRAC	Old Storridge Charity	7.01
28/02/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		M&G Charities	Old Storridge Charity	29.03
20/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		Blackrock Dvd OSRAC	Old Storridge Charity	7.01
TOTAL Old Storridge Charity					200.04
Parish Lengthsman Income					
27/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		WCC Highways Invoiced	Parish Lengthsman Income	396.00
25/01/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		WCC Highways Invoiced	Parish Lengthsman Income	456.00
25/01/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		WCC Highways Invoiced	Parish Lengthsman Income	144.00
25/01/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		WCC Highways Invoiced	Parish Lengthsman Income	144.00
01/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		WCC Highways Invoiced	Parish Lengthsman Income	120.00
29/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		WCC Highways Invoiced	Parish Lengthsman Income	120.00
31/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		WCC Highways Invoiced	Parish Lengthsman Income	132.00
TOTAL Parish Lengthsman Income					1,512.00
Precept					
30/04/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		MHDC 1st Half Precept	Precept	6,420.00
01/10/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		MHDC 2nd Half Precept	Precept	6,420.00
TOTAL Precept					12,840.00
Sundry Income					
17/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		Village Hall	Sundry Income	1,250.00
TOTAL Sundry Income					1,250.00
VAT Refund					
23/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		HMRC	VAT Refund	688.30
TOTAL VAT Refund					688.30
TOTAL INCOME					16,490.34
EXPENSES					
Audit					
26/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...762	S	Linda Cotterill	Audit	-50.00
TOTAL Audit					-50.00
Clerk - Expenses					
27/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...763		WCALC Meeting	Clerk - Expenses	-10.00
27/09/2018	Alfrick & Lul...769		Clerk - Expenses April - July	Clerk - Expenses	-312.79
28/02/2019	Alfrick & Lul...778		Clerk - Expenses Aug - Dec	Clerk - Expenses	-38.67
28/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...783		Clerk - Expenses Jan - March	Clerk - Expenses	-299.38
TOTAL Clerk - Expenses					-660.84
Clerk - Salary					
30/04/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-320.25
31/05/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-320.25
02/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19
31/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19
31/08/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19

A&L 2018

01/04/2018 Through 31/03/2019 (in Pound)

24/04/2019

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Date	Account	Num	Description	Category	Amount
01/10/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19
31/10/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19
30/11/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19
31/12/2018	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19
31/01/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19
28/02/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19
29/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...		Clerk Salary	Clerk - Salary	-333.19
TOTAL Clerk - Salary					-3,972.40
Insurance					
24/05/2018	Alfrick & Lul...760		Came & Co	Insurance	-569.30
TOTAL Insurance					-569.30
Meeting Expenses					
26/04/2018	Alfrick & Lul...756		Alfrick Village Hall	Meeting Expenses	-180.00
24/05/2018	Alfrick & Lul...758		Alfrick Village Hall	Meeting Expenses	-32.50
TOTAL Meeting Expenses					-212.50
Other Expenses					
28/02/2019	Alfrick & Lul...781	S	Guy Sterry Ltd -Playing Field ...	Other Expenses	-3,030.00
28/02/2019	Alfrick & Lul...780		Andrew's Gardening Services ...	Other Expenses	-130.00
28/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...784		Alfrick Community Shop (Litter...	Other Expenses	-124.00
TOTAL Other Expenses					-3,284.00
Parish Lengthsman Expense					
26/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...765	S	R Wilks Lengthsman April - Ju...	Parish Lengthsman Expense	-396.00
25/10/2018	Alfrick & Lul...770	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Aug - S...	Parish Lengthsman Expense	-348.00
25/10/2018	Alfrick & Lul...772	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Oct	Parish Lengthsman Expense	-108.00
24/01/2019	Alfrick & Lul...774	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Nov - Dec	Parish Lengthsman Expense	-288.00
28/02/2019	Alfrick & Lul...779	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Jan	Parish Lengthsman Expense	-120.00
28/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...782	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Feb	Parish Lengthsman Expense	-120.00
31/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...785	S	R Wilks Lengthsman March	Parish Lengthsman Expense	-132.00
TOTAL Parish Lengthsman Expense					-1,512.00
Playing Field Maintenance					
10/05/2018	Alfrick & Lul...757	S	MCB Landscapes	Playing Field Maintenance	-150.00
26/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...766	S	MCB Landscapes	Playing Field Maintenance	-300.00
26/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...767	S	MCB Landscapes	Playing Field Maintenance	-75.00
27/09/2018	Alfrick & Lul...768	S	MCB Landscapes	Playing Field Maintenance	-285.00
24/01/2019	Alfrick & Lul...775	S	MCB Landscapes	Playing Field Maintenance	-75.00
TOTAL Playing Field Maintenance					-885.00
Subscriptions					
26/04/2018	Alfrick & Lul...755	S	WCALC	Subscriptions	-357.63
TOTAL Subscriptions					-357.63
Tree Warden					
24/05/2018	Alfrick & Lul...759		D Bradley	Tree Warden	-13.88
24/01/2019	Alfrick & Lul...776		D Bradley	Tree Warden	-65.49
28/02/2019	Alfrick & Lul...777		D Bradley	Tree Warden	-45.35
TOTAL Tree Warden					-124.72
War Memorial Mntce					
02/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...761		J Clarke	War Memorial Mntce	-46.00
25/10/2018	Alfrick & Lul...771		J Clarke	War Memorial Mntce	-46.00
07/12/2018	Alfrick & Lul...773		B Salter	War Memorial Mntce	-160.00

A&L 2018

01/04/2018 Through 31/03/2019 (in Pound)

24/04/2019

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Date	Account	Num	Description	Category	Amount
TOTAL War Memorial Mntce					-252.00
TOTAL EXPENSES					-11,880.39
TRANSFERS					
VAT Control					
26/04/2018	Alfrick & Lul...755	S	WCALC	[VAT Control]	-63.79
10/05/2018	Alfrick & Lul...757	S	MCB Landscapes	[VAT Control]	-30.00
26/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...762	S	Linda Cotterill	[VAT Control]	-10.00
26/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...765	S	R Wilks Lengthsman April - Ju...	[VAT Control]	-79.20
26/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...766	S	MCB Landscapes	[VAT Control]	-60.00
26/07/2018	Alfrick & Lul...767	S	MCB Landscapes	[VAT Control]	-15.00
27/09/2018	Alfrick & Lul...768	S	MCB Landscapes	[VAT Control]	-57.00
25/10/2018	Alfrick & Lul...770	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Aug - S...	[VAT Control]	-69.60
25/10/2018	Alfrick & Lul...772	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Oct	[VAT Control]	-21.60
24/01/2019	Alfrick & Lul...774	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Nov - Dec	[VAT Control]	-57.60
24/01/2019	Alfrick & Lul...775	S	MCB Landscapes	[VAT Control]	-15.00
28/02/2019	Alfrick & Lul...779	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Jan	[VAT Control]	-24.00
28/02/2019	Alfrick & Lul...781	S	Guy Sterry Ltd -Playing Field ...	[VAT Control]	-606.00
28/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...782	S	R Wilks Lengthsman Feb	[VAT Control]	-24.00
31/03/2019	Alfrick & Lul...785	S	R Wilks Lengthsman March	[VAT Control]	-26.40
TOTAL VAT Control					-1,159.19
TOTAL TRANSFERS					-1,159.19
OVERALL TOTAL					3,450.76