

Annual Internal Audit Report 2018/19

Grimley 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.			✓ N/A
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 ✓
M. (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 authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas on separate sheets if needed).

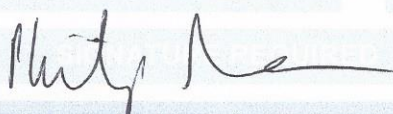
Date(s) internal audit undertaken

15/06/2019

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

PHILIP MODRE ACMA

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit



Date

21/06/2019

*If the response is 'no' you must include a note to 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:

Grimley 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	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
			✓

*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 should be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

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

13/05/2019

and recorded as minute reference:

13/05/2019 - 63/19 a iii

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

Chairman

Clerk

Other information required by the Transparency Codes (not part of Annual Governance Statement)

Authority web address

<http://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish> (navigate & then select 'G' for Grimley)

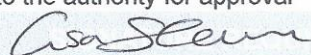
Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19 for

Grimley Parish Council

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2018 £	31 March 2019 £	
1. Balances brought forward	30,530	32,860	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	16,538	16,950	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	2,046	12,015	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	7,424	9,061	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	8,829	23,699	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	32,860	29,066	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	32,860	29,066	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	15,415	15,415	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.
		✓	N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.

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 12/05/2019

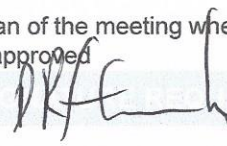
I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

13/05/2019

as recorded in minute reference:

13/05/2019 - 64/19 b

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



Bank reconciliation – pro forma

This reconciliation should include all bank and building society accounts, including short term investment accounts. It must agree to Box 8 in the column headed "Year ending 31 March 2019" in Section 2 of the AGAR – and will also agree to Box 7 where the accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis. Please complete the highlighted boxes, remembering that unpresented cheques should be entered as negative figures.

Name of smaller authority:

Grimley Parish Council

County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

Worcestershire

Financial year ending 31 March 2019

Prepared by (Name and Role):

Mrs Lisa Stevens - Grimley Parish Clerk & RFO

Date:

12/05/2019

	£	£
Balance per bank statements as at 31/3/19:		
account 1	9,954.5	
account 2	19,572.6	
account 3		
account 4		
[add more accounts if necessary]		
account 5		
account 6		
account 7		
account 8		
		29,527.1
Petty cash float (if applicable)		-
Less: any unpresented cheques as at 31/3/19 (enter these as negative numbers)		
item 1	(241.50)	
item 2	(39.50)	
item 3	(106.20)	
item 4	(74.10)	
[add more lines if necessary]		
item 5		
item 6		
item 7		
item 8		
		(461.30)
Add: any un-banked cash as at 31/3/19		
Net balances as at 31/3/19 (Box 8)		29,065.8

PRF

Lisa Stevens

Clerk + RFO

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Grimley Parish Council**

County Area (local councils and Worcestershire)

Insert figures from Section 1 of the AQAR in all blue highlighted boxes

Next, please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following that will be flagged in the green boxes where relevant:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input. DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	30,530	32,860				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	16,538	16,950	412	2.49%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	2,046	12,016	9,970	487.29%	YES		Quite quickly in the 2018/19 financial year we realised that a large number of major projects were going to come to fruition and that expenditure would increase beyond that anticipated whilst drafting the budget. Consequently it was prudent to also increase applications for grants and funding - this was done and £7,600 was raised from various bodies providing grants. Much of this will be ringfenced for specific projects. £2,000 was claimed back from HMRC as VAT refund - a figure above that able to be claimed in previous years.
4 Staff Costs	7,424	9,061	1,637	22.05%	YES		Clerk hours increased from 8 per week to 12 per week, as agreed with Members. Staff expenses (including all equipment purchases): £2738.45. This includes mileage and a number of significant purchases of equipment including display boards, projection equipment, memorial plaques and electric fencing equipment. Staff wages: £8322.40 Total: £9060.85
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	8,830	23,699	14,869	168.39%	YES		A number of projects have been commissioned in the previous years but not yet completed until this financial year. NB a number of long standing projects came to fruition in this single financial year. Savings (financial reserves in the savings account) remain healthy and the finances can handle this exceptional year. £6600 on academic studies of Monkwood Green SSSI - a protected habit owned by the Parish Council. The studies will better enable care of the site. Parishioners were fully consulted on expense prior to commissioning. £3100 on essential road repairs - roads owned by parish council and used by residents for property access. £2000 on refurbishing the parish noticeboards and bus shelters. £1400 spent on mowing and slimming Monkwood Green SSSI. £1300 spent on a parish wide Smart Water project to tackle rural crime. £1150 spent on clearance and tree work on Monkwood Green SSSI. £350 donation to the Parish Hall towards long term refurbishment.
7 Balances Carried Forward	32,860	29,066			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	0	0				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	15,415	15,415	0	0.00%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Remaining errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable

BOX 10 VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED IF CHANGE CAN BE EXPLAINED BY BOX 6 (CAPITAL PLUS INTEREST PAYMENT)

Coastlen Clerk + RFO

DRF