

Smaller authority name: Withington Parish Council

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

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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

NOTICE	NOTES
1. Date of announcement <u>24th June 2022</u> (a) 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 2022, these documents will be available on reasonable notice by application to: (b) <u>Parishclerk@withington-gloucestershire.co.uk</u> commencing on (c) <u>Monday 27th June 2022</u> and ending on (d) <u>Friday 5th August 2022</u> 3. Local government electors and their representatives also have: • 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. The appointed auditor can be contacted at the address in paragraph 4 below for this purpose between the above dates only. 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: PKF Littlejohn LLP (Ref: SBA Team) 15 Westferry Circus Canary Wharf London E14 4HD (sba@pkf-l.com) 5. This announcement is made by (e) <u>Cllr Glenys Webb</u>	(a) Insert date of placing of the notice which must be not less than 1 day before the date in (c) below (b) Insert name, position and address/telephone number/ email address, as appropriate, of the Chair or other person to which any person may apply to inspect the accounts (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 (d) The inspection period between (c) and (d) must be 30 working days inclusive and must include the first 10 working days of July. (e) Insert name and position of person placing the notice – this person must be the Chair of the parish meeting

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 Form 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 Form 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22

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 Form 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 all 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) **no later than 30 June 2022**. Failure to do so will result in reminder letter(s) for which the Authority will be charged £40 +VAT for each letter; and
 - b) The **Annual Governance and Accountability Return (Form 2)** which is made up of:
 - Annual Internal Audit Report (page 4) must be completed by the authority's internal auditor.
 - Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement (page 5) must be completed and approved by the authority.
 - Section 2 – Accounting Statements (page 6) must 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 the authority website/webpage **before 1 July 2022**.

Publication Requirements

Smaller authorities **must** publish various documents on a publicly available 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 2021/22, page 4
- Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2021/22, page 5
- Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2021/22, 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

Any smaller authority may request a limited assurance review. If so, the authority should not certify itself as exempt or complete the Certificate of Exemption. Instead it should complete Form 3 of the AGAR 2021/22 and return it to the external auditor together with the supporting documentation requested by the external auditor. The cost to the authority for the review will be **£200 +VAT**.

Provided that the authority certifies itself as exempt, and completes and publishes the documents listed under 'Publication Requirements', there is no requirement for the authority to have a review.

If it decides to certify itself as exempt, the authority must complete and return the Certificate of Exemption on Page 3 to the external auditor to confirm that it has certified itself exempt.

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 Form 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2021/22, 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 2022. 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 Certificate of Exemption must be returned to the external auditor no later than **30 June 2022**. Reminder letters will incur a charge of £40 +VAT for each letter.
- The authority **must** comply with *Proper Practices* in completing Sections 1 and 2 of this AGAR 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 before approving the Annual Governance Statement and the accounts.
- The Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) must be approved on the same day or before the Accounting Statements (Section 2) and evidenced by the agenda or minute references
- The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) must certify the accounts (Section 2) before they are presented to the authority for approval. The authority must in this order; consider, approve and sign the accounts.
- The RFO is required to commence the public rights period as soon as practical after the date of the AGAR approval.
- Make sure that the AGAR is complete (no highlighted boxes left empty), 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 AGAR for completeness at the meeting at which it is signed off.
- You must inform your external auditor about any change of Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer or Chairman, and provide relevant authority owned generic email addresses and telephone numbers.**
- The authority must publish numerical and narrative explanations for significant variances in the accounting statements on **page 6**. Guidance is provided in the *Practitioners' Guide** which may assist.
- Make sure that the accounting statements add up and the balance carried forward from the previous year (Box 7 of 2021) equals the balance brought forward in the current year (Box 1 of 2022).
- The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), on behalf of the authority, **must** set the commencement date for the exercise of public rights of 30 consecutive working days which **must** include the first ten working days of July.
- The authority **must** publish, on the authority website/webpage, 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 2022**.

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 for publication?	✓	
Section 2	Has the authority's approval of the accounting statements been confirmed by the signature of the Chairman of the approval meeting?	✓	
	Has an explanation of significant variations been published where required?	✓	
	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>)		N/A

***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 2021/22 Form 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 2022, 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 2022 and a completed Certificate of Exemption is submitted no later than **30 June 2022** notifying the external auditor.

WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

certifies that during the financial year 2021/22, the higher of the authority's total gross income for the year or total gross annual expenditure, for the year did not exceed **£25,000**

Total annual gross income for the authority 2021/22: **£4,939**

Total annual gross expenditure for the authority 2021/22: **£5,530**

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 Form 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 was in existence on 1st April 2018
- In relation to the preceding financial year (2020/21), 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 Local 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, 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 the authority website/webpage* before 1 July 2022.

By signing this certificate you are also confirming that you are aware of this requirement.

Signed by the Responsible Financial Officer

Date

SN Hughes

15/06/2022

I confirm that this Certificate of Exemption was approved by this authority on this date:

11/05/2022

Signed by Chairman

Date

G E Webb

15/06/2022

as recorded in minute reference:

11/5 8

Generic email address of Authority

parishclerk@withington-gloucestershire.co.uk

Telephone number

01451 860960

*Published web address

www.withington-gloucestershire.co.uk

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, but no later than 30 June 2022. Reminder letters incur a charge of £40 +VAT

Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22

WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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During the financial year ended 31 March 2022, 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 2021/22 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.	✓		
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.			✓
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 bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.	✓		
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 2020/21, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2020/21 AGAR tick "not covered")			✓
L. The authority publishes information on a free to access website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with any relevant transparency code requirements	✓		
M. The authority, during the previous year (2020-21) correctly provided for the period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (evidenced by the notice published on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set).	✓		
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2020/21 AGAR (see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes).	✓		
O. (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

14 JUNE 2022

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

K. J. LAWTON

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

K. J. Lawton

Date

14/6/22

*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).

See separate sheet

**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).

Annual Internal Audit Report for Withington Parish Council For the year to 31 March 2022

This section is to the Councillors.

I examined the books and records for the 2021/22 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) at the beginning of June 2022 and signed the report today.

All records were available for inspection and supporting documentation for payments made is complete and well-kept.

I have the following comments:

1. Tax of £280.24 deducted from the Clerk's wages has not been paid to HMRC:
 - a. Tax of £124.30 on wages paid for April/May 2021 in July 2021
 - b. Tax of £71.19 for June/July 2021 in September 2021
 - c. Tax of £84.75 for August/September 2021 in November 2021

This has arisen following receipt of a letter from HMRC dated 2 April 2021 explaining that there was a credit of £352.06 on the Withington Parish Council PAYE ('the PAYE') account. The Parish Council decided to withhold payments until the credit was 'used up'.

The credit has arisen because HMRC have no record of some of the submissions (required to be made each time to HMRC on or before the date the clerk is paid) detailing the amount of PAYE deducted from the wages and to be paid to HMRC. This goes back several years. Submissions were made each time the clerk was paid but may not have been received by HMRC. This needs urgent investigation. The correct PAYE account login details are being used.

The HMRC letter asked for the information, if it was wrong, to be corrected by way of further submissions (Full Payment Submission, Employer Payment Summary or Earlier Year Update). This wasn't done.

The PAYE account is accessible online and provides information on the submissions and payments made.

I recommend an analysis and reconciliation of both the submissions and payments recorded by HMRC, and the annual summaries from the payroll software (HMRC Basic PAYE Tools) is prepared and discussed with HMRC to resolve this as a matter of urgency.

The PAYE of £280.24 has not been deducted in the accounts (because they are prepared on a cash basis) but is still due to HMRC (it doesn't belong to the Parish Council) and so will be an unbudgeted cost in 2022/23.

2. If a full payment submission is not made to HMRC on or before the date the clerk is paid, a penalty may be charged. HMRC has recently advised that a penalty may now be payable as a submission was not made when the clerk was paid for March 2022. This is because the computer on which the HMRC Basic PAYE Tools software is held was not able to accommodate the software update for the new financial year starting on 6 April 2022. This needs to be addressed, so submissions can be made as required, and discussed with HMRC urgently with the objective of trying to avoid a penalty.
3. The Clerk should be provided with a P60 each year by 31 May following the end of the tax year on 5 April. This hasn't been done. P60s for all relevant years are available in the HMRC Basic PAYE Tools software and should now be printed off and provided to the Clerk. Payslips should also be provided and are available from the software.

MP. 1 of 3
14 June 2022

Annual Internal Audit Report for Withington Parish Council

For the year to 31 March 2022

4. There are eight cheques not presented at the year end ranging from February 2021 to March 2022. Cheques older than six months should not be accepted by the bank and so will need to be reissued. This is time consuming and inefficient. In my experience suppliers prefer to receive a bank transfer rather than a cheque. It would be straightforward for the Parish Council to use online banking. With the platform Lloyds Business Banking (which the Parish Council's Treasurer's account will fall under) it is straightforward for one person to initiate a payment and for a second to authorise it before funds are sent to the recipient (in the way that cheques are signed by two authorised signatories). I recommend that an application for online banking is made (requiring any two to sign, as with the cheques).
5. Last year I reported that the last annual playground inspection invoice was for June 2019 and that no annual inspection had been carried out since then. I am not aware that an inspection has been carried out this year either. This is a risk to the Parish Council and an inspection should be arranged urgently.
6. A VAT claim has not been made for two years and there is £452.56 VAT to be refunded. I suggest that a VAT claim is made shortly.
7. It is important that the minutes for 11 May 2022 record the Council's approval of the certificate of exemption (from external review) as next year's certificate needs to refer to the approving minutes.
8. The Explanation of Variances sheet doesn't show the correct figures as presented – it should agree to section 2 of the AGAR (for this year and last year).

The section below is for inclusion in the 2021/22 AGAR.

*JP P. 2 of 3
14 June 2022*

Annual Internal Audit Report for Withington Parish Council For the year to 31 March 2022

Items marked 'No' on the Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22 are explained as follows:

- G. The authority correctly calculated PAYE on wages paid but in total £280.24 was not paid to HMRC following receipt of a letter from HMRC explaining that there was a credit on the authority's PAYE account. This was not the correct action and further investigation, and resolution, is required in conjunction with HMRC. The PAYE should be paid to HMRC.

Items marked 'Not covered' on the Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22 are explained as follows:

- F. There is no petty cash.
- K. The authority had a limited assurance review of its 2020/21 AGAR.



Katherine J Lawton ACA, BA
14 June 2022

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2021/22

We acknowledge as the members of:

WITHINGTON 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 2022, 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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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
			✓

*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:

11 05 2022

and recorded as minute reference:

11/5 8

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

Chairman

G.E. Webb

Clerk

SA Hyatt

Other 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 ☐

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Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2021/22 for

WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2021 £	31 March 2022 £	
1. Balances brought forward	5,646	5,903	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	4,170	4,170	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	0	769	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	901	2,502	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	3,012	3,028	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	5,903	5,312	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	5,711	4,859	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	44,946	44,946	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			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	N/A
		✓	
			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 2022 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

SA Hughes

15/06/2022

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

11/05/2022

as recorded in minute reference:

11/5/8

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

C.E. Webb

Bank reconciliation – pro forma

This reconciliation should include all bank and building society accounts, including short term investment accounts. It must be entered in the column headed "Year ending 31 March 2021" in Section 2 of the AGAR – and will also agree to Box 7 where the accounts are on a cash and payments basis. Please complete the highlighted boxes, remembering that unpresented cheques should be entered as negative numbers.

Name of smaller authority:

WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

Financial year ending 31 March 2021

Prepared by (Name and Role):

SUSAN HUGHES

Date:

10/05/2022

Balance per bank statements as at 31/3/19:

[add more accounts if necessary]

ACCOUNT

£

£

5,728.39

5,728.39

Petty cash float (if applicable)

Less: any unpresented cheques as at 31/3/21 (enter these as negative numbers)

CHEQUE

574

582

587

592

[add more lines if necessary]

594

597

598

599

(36.00)

(50.00)

(36.00)

(90.00)

(50.00)

(388.22)

(83.06)

(135.63)

Out of date cheques included as they may need to be cancelled and re-drawn

(868.91)

Add: any un-banked cash as at 31/3/19

Net balances as at 31/3/21 (Box 8)

4,859.48

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR 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).

	2020/21 £	2021/22 £	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	5,157	5,414				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	4,170	4,170	0	0.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	0	769	769	100.00%	YES		Additional income in 2021-22 from ESC lottery funds £269 and a Harper Firms donation of £500
4 Staff Costs	901	2,502	1,601	177.69%	YES		Lower costs in 2020-21 due to Covid-19 Costs returned to normal levels in 2021-22
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	3,012	3,012	0	0.00%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	5,414	4,839			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	5,711	5,711				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	Differences between Box 7 and Box 8 due to VAT debtor
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	42,850	42,850	0	0.00%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable