

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2019/20

We acknowledge as the members of:

BARKING PARISH COUNCIL
ENTER NAME OF AUTHORITY

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 2020, 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
			✓
			<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>

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

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

21/05/2020

and recorded as minute reference:

Bpc76/20(a)

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

Chairman

Clerk




REQUIRED

REQUIRED

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

Authority web address

<http://barking.onesuffolk.net/home/parish-council/>

Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2019/20 for

BARKING PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2019 £	31 March 2020 £	
1. Balances brought forward	37840	40598	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	9000	9000	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	9697	41007	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	3295	3415	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	12644	44403	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	40598	42787	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	40598	42787	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	31083	31143	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 2020 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 21/05/2020

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

21/05/2020

as recorded in minute reference:

Bpc76/20(b) MINUTE REFERENCE

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

 REQUIRED

Bank reconciliation – pro forma

This reconciliation should include **all** bank and building society accounts, including short term investment accounts. It **must** a column headed "Year ending 31 March 20xx" in Section 2 of the AGAR – and will also agree to Box 7 where the accounts are on a credit and payments basis. Please complete the highlighted boxes, remembering that unpresented cheques should be entered as an

Name of smaller authority:

County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

Financial year ending 31 March 20xx

Prepared by (Name and Role):

Date:

	£	£
Balance per bank statements as at 31/3/xx:		
Current	9,286.5	
Base Rate Reward	35,240.8	
Active saver	1.4	
Parish Paths	83.7	
		44,612.3
Petty cash float (if applicable)		-
Less: any unpresented cheques as at 31/3/20 (enter these as negative numbers)		
101846	(394.36)	
101852	(555.00)	
101853	(481.00)	
101854	(394.36)	
[add more lines if necessary]		
item 5		
item 6		
item 7		
item 8		
		(1,824.72)
Add: any un-banked cash as at 31/3/20		
		-
Net balances as at 31/3/20 (Box 8)		<u>42,787.6</u>

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Some of the information is being provided for **Staff** / **Senior Finance Director**.
 Certain amounts are shown in blue highlighted boxes.
 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 1% between budget for individual boxes (except variances of less than £225k)
 - a breakdown of approved amounts of the material financial reserves (500 to 750) or a more than two (2) areas of expenditure & limits value (100k £).

	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	variance £	variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic disclosures required based on 'Square 1' - DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES	Explanation from senior authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balance Brought Forward	31,349	31,296					
2 Receipts of Rates and Levies	3,600	3,811	£ 211	5.83%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	1,697	4,007	£ 2,310	136.65%	YES		Grants to residential village hall car park £20,453; CHL £10,281; VAT section £177
4 Short Costs	3,295	3,415	£ 120	3.64%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Cash Repayments	0	0	£ 0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	12,644	12,483	£ 161	1.27%	YES		Residence village hall car park £25,125; see supply 4/1629 Fee survey £1330; RUC payments agency £653
7 Balance Carried Forward	41,696	42,787			YES		
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	46,333	43,787					
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments are	31,349	31,143	£ 206	0.66%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	£ 0	0.00%	NO		

Round up errors of up to £2 are tolerable

variances of £250 or less are tolerable

variances of £250 or less are tolerable

BARKING 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 2020.

The internal audit for 2019/20 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.			* NO PETTY CASH HOLD
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 2018/19, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2018/19 AGAR tick "not covered")			✓
L. The authority has demonstrated that during summer 2019 it correctly provided for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		
M. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.			✓

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

11/05/20

DD/MM/YY

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

DAVE CRIMM (ON BEHALF OF HEEL & LOZGE)

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

D. Crimm

Date

11/05/20

*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).