

NOTICE OF CONCLUSION OF AUDIT

(LOCAL AUDIT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT 2014
ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REGULATIONS 2015)

FOR

Saddleworth Parish Council

NOTICE is hereby given that the audit for the
year ended 31 March 2016 was completed on

22 August 2016

and the accounts are now available for inspection by local electors
in accordance with Section 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.
The requisite information as defined by Section 13(1) of the Accounts and Audit
Regulations 2015 is/~~is not~~ displayed alongside this notice

(* Please delete as necessary)

If the requisite information is not displayed alongside
this notice, it is available for inspection by appointment.

To arrange a viewing please contact

between the hours of _____ and _____

Dated: 7th September 2016

Signed: Pam Bailey

(Responsible Financial Officer)

40 15/7

Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Smaller Authorities in England Annual return for the year ended 31 March 2016

Every smaller authority in England with an annual turnover of £6.5 million or less must complete an annual return at the end of each financial year in accordance with proper practices summarising its activities. In this annual return the term 'smaller authority'* includes a Parish Meeting, a Parish Council, a Town Council and an Internal Drainage Board.

The annual return on pages 2 to 4 is made up of three sections:

- Sections 1 and 2 are completed by the smaller authority. Smaller authorities must approve Section 1 before Section 2.
- Section 3 is completed by the external auditor.

In addition, the **internal audit report** is completed by the smaller authority's internal audit provider.

Each smaller authority must approve Sections 1 and 2 of this annual return no later than 30 June 2016.

Completing your annual return

Guidance notes, including a completion checklist, are provided on page 6 and at relevant points in the annual return.

Complete all highlighted sections. Do not leave any highlighted box blank. Incomplete or incorrect returns require additional external auditor work and may incur additional costs.

Send the annual return, together with the bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2016, an explanation of any significant year on year variances in the accounting statements, **your notification of the commencement date of the period for the exercise of public rights** and any additional information requested, to your external auditor by the due date.

Your external auditor will ask for any additional documents needed for their work. Unless requested, do not send any original financial records to the external auditor.

Once the external auditor has completed their work, certified annual returns will be returned to the smaller authority for publication or public display of Sections 1, 2 and 3. You must publish or display the annual return, including the external auditor's report, by 30 September 2016.

It should not be necessary for you to contact the external auditor for guidance.

More guidance on completing this annual return is available in the Practitioners' Guides that can be downloaded from www.nalc.gov.uk or from www.slcc.co.uk or from www.ada.org.uk

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

Section 1 – Annual governance statement 2015/16

We acknowledge as the members of:

Enter name of
smaller authority here:

SADLEWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including 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 2016, that:

	Agreed		'Yes' means that this smaller 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 smaller authority to conduct its business or on 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 smaller authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		considered the financial and other risks it faces and has 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 smaller 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	NA
			✓
			has met all of its responsibilities where it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

This annual governance statement is approved by this smaller authority and recorded as minute reference:

1916 REFERENCE
dated 27/06/16

Signed by:

Chair

P.A. Byrne

dated

27/06/16

Signed by:

Clerk

Pamela S. Bailey

dated

27/06/16

*Note: Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response. Describe how this smaller authority will address the weaknesses identified.

Section 2 – Accounting statements 2015/16 for

Enter name of
smaller authority here:

SADDLEWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2015 £	31 March 2016 £	
1. Balances brought forward	126,709	140,787	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	154,410	159,390	Total amount of precept or (for IDBs) rates and levies received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	101,690	118,661	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	95,030	101,865	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	34,557	34,557	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the smaller authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	112,435	136,397	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	140,787	146,019	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	123,421	144,590	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	2,183,136	2,205,499	The original Asset and Investment Register value of all fixed assets, plus other long term assets owned by the smaller authority as at 31 March
10. Total borrowings	454,050	441,134	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 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 2016 the accounting statements in this annual return present fairly the financial position of this smaller authority and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer

Pamela S. Bailey

Date

19/04/2016

I confirm that these accounting statements were approved by this smaller authority on this date:

27/06/16

and recorded as minute reference:

1917

Signed by Chair of the meeting approving these accounting statements.

P.A. Byrne

Date

27/06/16



ISSUES ARISING REPORT FOR
Saddleworth Parish Council
Audit for the year ended 31 March 2016

Introduction

The following matters have been raised to draw items to the attention of Saddleworth Parish Council. These matters came to the attention of BDO LLP during the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2016. This report must be presented to a full meeting of the smaller authority for review.

The audit of the annual return may not disclose all shortcomings of the systems as some matters may not have come to the attention of the auditor. For this reason, the matters raised may not be the only ones that exist.

The matters listed below are explained in further detail on the page(s) that follow;

- Accounts approval
-

The following issue(s) have been raised to assist the council. The council is recommended to take action on the following issue(s) to ensure that the council acts within its statutory and regulatory framework.

Accounts approval

What is the issue?

The Accounts were approved after the commencement of the inspection period of the exercise of electors' rights.

Why has this issue been raised?

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, reg 15(3) specifies that the Annual Governance statement must be approved. This is followed by the approval of the Accounting Statements. Both statements must be published including on a website with the notice of electors' rights. The electors' rights period should start on the following day. The smaller authority has not complied with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

What do we recommend you do?

The Smaller Authority must ensure in future years that the electors' rights inspection period commences after the accounting statements are approved. The Smaller Authority must also consider how to answer the question concerning the electors' rights period in the Annual Governance statement next year. The period of electors' rights that they must be considering is for the 2015/16 year as that is the period that has occurred during the year.

Further guidance on this matter can be obtained from the following source(s):

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015

No other matters came to our attention.

For and on behalf of
BDO LLP

Date: 22 August 2016
