

# **BLUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL**

## ***Notice of conclusion of audit***

### ***Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019***

#### ***Sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014***

1. The audit of accounts for Blunston Parish Council for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 has been completed and the accounts have been published.
2. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return is available for inspection by any local government elector of the area of Blunston Parish Council in application to:  
Mrs Rachel Smith,  
Finance Officer,  
Tel: 01793 705617, email: rachelblunston@gmail.com
3. Copies will be provided to any person on payment of £5 for each copy of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

Announcement made by: Mrs Rachel Smith

Date of Announcement: 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019

### Section 3 – External Auditor Report and Certificate 2018/19

In respect of

Blunsdon Parish Council - W10023

#### 1 Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2019; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

Our responsibility is to review Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with guidance issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (see note below). Our work **does not** constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.

#### 2 External auditor report 2018/19

Except for the matters reported below, on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Section 1, Assertion 5 has been incorrectly completed. The smaller authority has indicated that no review of risk management was undertaken during the year under review and so the answer to Assertion 5 should have been 'No'. A review of risk management has been undertaken since the year end by Full Council at the meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review. Please ensure that amendments are corrected in the prior year comparatives when completing next year's AGAR.:

- Information received from the smaller authority indicates that a cancelled cheque of £16,687 has been included as income in Section 2, Box 3. This item should have been netted off the relevant expenditure rather than shown as income. Box 3 for the current year should therefore read £121,017 with a corresponding total reduction of £16,687 in Box 6. Therefore Box 6 should read £71,218.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

None

#### 3 External auditor certificate 2018/19

We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2019.

External Auditor Name

PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP

External Auditor Signature

PKF Littlejohn LLP

Date

16/08/2019

\* Note: the NAO issued guidance applicable to external auditors' work on limited assurance reviews for 2018/19 in Auditor Guidance Note AGN/02. The AGN is available from the NAO website ([www.nao.org.uk](http://www.nao.org.uk))