

Bidborough Parish Council

Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

Explanation of Answers to Assertions within the Statement

Assertion 1 – Answer Yes

The Council has put in place a new computerised financial system which will ensure that effective accounts are in place which clearly shows the funds allocated to each budget and any expenditure made and this year has produced the Council's Accounting Statement. The Council also received a detailed report on its budget enabling it to set its precept and agreed its General Reserve Policy and reviewed the level and purpose of its earmarked reserves.

Assertion 2 – Answer No

There were no internal control measures in place in 2022/23 and the Clerk has reviewed all the financial systems. He has undertaken a Financial Risk Assessment and produced a Statement of Internal Control. The production of these documents has clearly identified the outstanding deficiencies in the Council's Internal Control Measures and an Action List has been produced with intention of completing all these actions by September which will allow the Council to be more positive in its response to next year's AGAR.

Assertion 3 – Answer Yes

The Council now takes the necessary steps to ensure that it complies with all laws, regulations and proper practices taking the appropriate advice as necessary.

Assertion 4 – Answer No

This was not done last year but compliance with this requirement take place this year.

Assertion 5 – Answer No

The Council has completed its Financial Risk Assessment and has just started a programme for the undertaking and completion of all other risk assessments which will be completed in the next few months.

Assertion 6 – Answer Yes

The Council had an effective and robust system of internal audit for 2022/23. The Council has also appointed an Internal Auditor for this year.

Assertion 7 – Answer Yes

The Council has received and acted in accord with the recommendations of the Internal Auditor and the External Auditor

Assertion 8 – Answer Yes

The Council takes all these matters into account and reflects them in its accounting statements and within its budget process as appropriate.