

**Recommendations from the 2024/2025 Interim Internal Audit
Chadlington Parish Council
28.02.25**

Annual Return Section	Process	Findings	Recommendations and actions
A	Bookkeeping Arrangements	Appropriate books of account have been kept properly throughout the year and are well maintained with audit trails.	No further recommendations.
B	Council's Financial Regulations have been met with regard to expenditure	<p>The Council's Financial Regulations have been met in that appropriate authorisations have been given for each level of expenditure.</p> <p>Payments were supported by invoices, and expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.</p> <p>The Financial Regulations were reviewed in November 2024.</p>	No further recommendations.
B	Review of Standing Orders	The Standing Orders were reviewed by the Council in May 2024.	No further recommendations.
C	Review of Internal Controls	The Council does have adequate provision.	<p>The Council to consider an accounts package, such as Scribe, for the Receipts and Payments and producing end of year accounts etc, which will assist the Clerk greatly in her role, as would online banking instead of issuing cheques..</p> <p>The Council to consider providing the Clerk with a debit card for small purchases with a set limit.</p>

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C	Review of Risk Assessment	During 2024/2025, the Council assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives using their Risk Assessment.	No further recommendations.
D	Budgetary Controls (Precept requirement)	The annual Precept requirement resulted from a budgetary process.	State anticipated receipts and payments figures when minuting the budget.
D	Budgetary Controls (Budget monitoring)	Progress against the budget was monitored and minuted regularly.	No further recommendations.
D	Reserves were appropriate	The Council does have a Reserves Policy.	No further recommendations.
D	The final outturn is in line with expectations	The final outturn was materially in line with expectations.	No further recommendations.
E	Administration of allotments	Rent was reviewed annually.	No further recommendations.
E	Income controls	Expected income was fully received and properly recorded.	No further recommendations.
E	VAT	VAT had been appropriately accounted for.	No further recommendations.
F	Petty cash controls	Petty cash is not operated by the Council.	No further recommendations.
G	Payroll controls	Salaries to employees were paid in accordance with Council approvals.	Council could consider providing the Clerk with the £26 per month Work from Home Allowance.
H	Asset Controls - all material assets correctly	The Asset Register has been published and uploaded onto the	Council could consider including photographs of assets in the Register.

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	recorded	web site.	
H	Asset Controls - all additions and removals correctly recorded	Items been added or removed so far this financial year.	No further recommendations.
H	Asset Controls - all Deeds and Titles established and shown on register?	Appropriate Deeds and Titles have been established; they are shown on the Register.	No further recommendations.
H	Investment Registers	The Parish Council does not require an Investments Policy.	No further recommendations.
I	Bank Reconciliations	Periodic and year-end reconciliations were properly carried out.	No further recommendations.
J	Accounting Statements	The Accounting Statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis and were supported by an adequate audit trail.	No further recommendations.
K	Limited Assurance Review Exemption	The Council does not meet the exemption criteria.	No further recommendations.
L	Information published on website	The information is available.	No further recommendations.
M	Exercise of Public Rights	The Parish Council published the exercise of public rights notice on the website and noticeboard with the following dates: 3 June to 12 July 2024.	No further recommendations.

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N	AGAR publication Requirements	The Parish Council has complied with the publication requirements for the 2023/2024 AGAR.	No further recommendations.
O	Trust funds (If applicable) – the Council met its responsibilities as a trustee	The Parish Council does not operate as a trustee.	No further recommendations.

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Transparency Compliance

Process	Criteria	Findings	Recommendations and actions
Review of Internal audit action plan 2023/2024 has been considered and actioned?	Good Practice	The Internal Audit from the previous year has been reviewed.	No further recommendations.
Accounting Statements agreed and reconciled to the Annual Return	Section 2 of the Annual Return is complete and accurate and reconciles to the statement of accounts.	Both reconcile.	No further recommendations.
Compliance with the Transparency Code	Whilst the Parish does not fall into the criteria for Councils below the £25k threshold, it is good practice to conform to the criteria and publish the items below.		
Compliance with the Transparency Code	1) Expenditure over £100 is recorded on the Council website and with all information requirements	Available in the minutes.	No further recommendations.
Compliance with the Transparency Code	2) Annual Return published on the website	Available on the website.	No further recommendations.
Compliance with the Transparency Code	3) Explanation of significant variances	Available on the website.	No further recommendations.
Compliance with the Transparency Code	4) Explanation of difference between Box 7 & 8 if applicable	No differences.	No further recommendations.
Compliance with the Transparency Code	5) Annual Governance Statement recorded	Available on the website.	No further recommendations.
Compliance with the Transparency Code	6) Internal Audit Report Published	Available on the website.	No further recommendations.
Compliance with the Transparency Code	7) A List of Councillors' responsibilities	Available on the website.	No further recommendations.
Compliance with the Transparency Code	8) Details of Public Land and Building Assets	Available on the website.	No further recommendations.

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Process	Criteria	Findings	Recommendations and actions
Compliance with the Transparency Code	9) Minutes & Agenda	Available on the website.	No further recommendations.

Further Recommendations

Process	Criteria	Findings	Recommendations and actions
Mobile Phone	A mobile phone is available to the Clerk	The Clerk does not have a Parish Council mobile phone.	The Council to consider providing a mobile phone to the Clerk.