

Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22

HUNTS GROVE PARISH COUNCIL

<https://www.huntsgrove-pc.gov.uk>

During the financial year ended 31 March 2022, this authority's internal auditor acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with the relevant procedures and controls in operation and obtained appropriate evidence from the authority.

The internal audit for 2021/22 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	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.			✓ ✱
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 bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.	✓		
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 2020/21, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2020/21 AGAR tick "not covered")			✓
L. The authority publishes information on a free to access website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with any relevant transparency code requirements	✓		
M. The authority, during the previous year (2020-21) correctly provided for the period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (evidenced by the notice published on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set).		✓	
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2020/21 AGAR (see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes).		✓	
O. (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: 31/1/2022, 7/2/2022, 10/2/2022
Name of person who carried out the internal audit: Sally E Jones GAPTC

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit: *Sally E Jones*
Date: 19/4/2022

*If the response is 'no' please 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).

✱ No Petty Cash held



Hunts Grove Parish Council

Explanation for Section M and N Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22

Explanatory notes:

Funds were held by Hardwicke Parish Council on behalf of Hunts Grove Parish Council whilst the council arranged for a bank account to be opened, this was actioned in August 2021. All local councils are audited annually; however due to the unique situation of the newly-formed council for Hunts Grove and the delay in setting up a bank account, the advice was that the Hunts Grove PC would be audited with Hardwicke PC's accounts. However, the National Audit Office confirmed in August 2021 that Hunts Grove Parish Council needed to submit separate accounts for audit.

Notice for exercise of public rights for Hunts Grove Parish Council was included with the Hardwicke Parish Council accounts as the council was holding all funds on behalf of Hunts Grove Parish Council. External Auditor advised that Hunts Grove Parish Council was required to display its own notice for exercise of public rights; this has been actioned.

Exercise of Public Rights took place 31/8/2021 to 11/10/21 and is published on the Council's website

Section 1 and 2 of AGAR completed and signed in August/September by the Council.

Sally E Joes
Internal Auditor GAPTC
19/2/2022