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



Introduction

The following matters have been raised to draw items to the attention of Palgrave 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
- Minor issues
- Minor issues

The following issue(s) have been raised as there are minor errors on the annual return which we wish to draw to the attention of the council so they do not occur again in future years.

Minor issues

What is the issue?

The following issues have been raised as minor issues or omissions have been identified in the current year's Annual Return:

Section 2 of the Annual Return does not add up.

Why has this issue been raised?

This is to draw these minor errors to the attention of the smaller authority.

What do we recommend you do?

The smaller authority should ensure in future years that the above minor errors or omissions are not included in the Accounting Statements.

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

Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England - A Practitioners Guide, NALC/SLCC

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

The following issues have been raised as the comparatives have been changed.

Minor issues

What is the issue?

The following issue(s) has been raised as the comparatives have been changed:

The comparative figures disclosed in Section 2 of the Annual Return do not agree to the audited Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2015. The comparative figures for the year ended 31 March 2015 were restated as the smaller authority have changed their basis of accounting. We have reviewed the adjustments made and we are satisfied they are correct.

Why has this issue been raised?

This is raised to bring the matter to the attention of readers of the annual return.

What do we recommend you do?

No further action is required.

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

Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England - A Practitioners' Guide, NALC/SLCC

No other matters came to our attention.

For and on behalf of BDO LLP

Date: 14 September 2016