

YORKSHIRE INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES  
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Mrs Fiona Hill  
Clerk to Stockton on the Forest Parish Council  
The Byre  
Fieldhouse Farm  
Thornton-le-Clay  
York  
YO60 7QA

Dear Mrs Hill

**To the Chairman and Members of Stockton on the Forest Parish Council  
Internal Audit of Accounts for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2020**

I am pleased to inform you that the internal audit is complete. Appropriate tests and checks were carried out on the accounts and internal controls to confirm that the systems of financial and other controls over the council's activities and operating procedures are effective. Unfortunately, no visit to the council was possible this year as the timing of the audit coincided with changed working and travel arrangements due to the pandemic, therefore the audit has been carried out online and by discussion with the clerk. Following that I can confirm that internal controls are operating as expected and there are no matters to give cause for concern. Some minor matters were discussed and action agreed where necessary with the clerk.

The current situation on the matter raised in my previous report is noted in the paragraphs below. There is one new matter to bring to the attention of members also noted below.

The Annual Internal Auditors Report contained within the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20 has been completed as required.

Insurance

Last year's audit report recommended that the council reconcile their insured assets with the asset register and consider adopting a minimum value below which an asset need not be insured as it was not clear whether the new assets added in 2017/18 were included in the current insurance cover as no schedule was available.

This review remains outstanding and detail of the cover is still not available. The clerk is to investigate this during the current year.

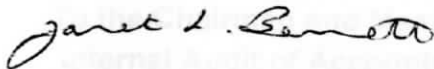
Annual Governance Statement

This council has in place good arrangements for ensuring adequate financial management and ensuring that there is an adequate system of internal control including Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, and Financial Risk Assessment Standing Orders were reviewed by the council during the 2018/19 financial year but other documents were not reviewed.

During 2019/20 the clerk carried out a policy review to ensure that all mandatory policies were in place but this did not include a review of those particular policies. I recommend that the review is completed once the current pandemic situation is over to ensure that they remain relevant, are being adhered to and that any new risks are identified and appropriate measures put in place to address those risks.

I would like to thank the clerk for her assistance and attention during the audit.

Yours sincerely



JL Bennett

6 July 2020

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RF Entwistle Tel 01423 797817  
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