

# Cranleigh Parish Council (1)

## Notice of conclusion of audit

### Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2019

Sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

	Notes
<p>1. The audit of accounts for <b>Cranleigh Parish Council (1)</b> for the year ended 31 March 2019 has been completed and the accounts have been published.</p>	<p>This notice and Sections 1, 2 &amp; 3 of the AGAR must be published by 30 September. This must include publication on the smaller authority's website.</p>
<p>2. The Annual Governance &amp; Accountability Return is available for inspection by any local government elector of the area of <b>Cranleigh Parish Council (1)</b> on application to:</p>	
<p>(a) <u>MRS B.M. BELL PARISH CLERK</u> <u>CRANLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL</u> <u>COUNCIL OFFICES VILLAGE WAY</u> <u>CRANLEIGH SURREY GU6 8AF</u></p>	<p>(a) Insert the name, position and address of the person to whom local government electors should apply to inspect the AGAR</p>
<p>(b) <u>MONDAY TO FRIDAY</u> <u>9.30AM - 12.30PM</u></p>	<p>(b) Insert the hours during which inspection rights may be exercised</p>
<p>3. Copies will be provided to any person on payment of <u>£0.30</u> (c) for each copy of the Annual Governance &amp; Accountability Return.</p>	<p>(c) Insert a reasonable sum for copying costs</p>
<p>Announcement made by: (d) <u>MRS B.M. BELL PARISH CLERK</u></p>	<p>(d) Insert the name and position of person placing the notice</p>
<p>Date of announcement: (e) <u>05 AUGUST 2019</u></p>	<p>(e) Insert the date of placing of the notice</p>

## Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

We acknowledge as the members of:

### CRANLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019, that:

	Agreed		Yes means that this authority
	Yes	No	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		<i>prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations</i>
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		<i>made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge</i>
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		<i>has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.</i>
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		<i>during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts</i>
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		<i>considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.</i>
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		<i>arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.</i>
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		<i>responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.</i>
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		<i>disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.</i>
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
	✓		
			<i>has met all of its responsibilities where, as a body corporate, it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts</i>

\*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets should be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

16/05/19

and recorded as minute reference:

16/08

Signed by the Chairman and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chairman

Clerk

Other information required by the Transparency Codes (not part of Annual Governance Statement)  
Authority web address

[www.cranleigh-pc.gov.uk](http://www.cranleigh-pc.gov.uk)

## Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19 for

### CRANLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2018 £	31 March 2019 £	
1. Balances brought forward	173,314	196,483	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	313,567	344,989	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	93,568	92,135	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	190,499	215,369	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	10,662	10,662	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any)
6. (-) All other payments	182,805	203,878	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	196,483	203,698	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	201,618	205,647	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	RE-STATED 2,069,648	2,097,261	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	20,751	10,489	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.  N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.
	✓		

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2019 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

Date

14/05/19

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

16/05/19

as recorded in minute reference:

16/09

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved.

### Section 3 – External Auditor Report and Certificate 2018/19

In respect of

Cranleigh Parish Council – SU0025

#### 1 Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2019; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

Our responsibility is to review Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with guidance issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (see note below). Our work **does not** constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.

#### 2 External auditor report 2018/19

Except for the matters reported below, on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review. Please ensure that amendments are corrected in the prior year comparatives when completing next year's AGAR:

- Trust fund transactions and balances have not been excluded from the figures in Section 2 which is not in accordance with proper practices. We note that a Service Level agreement has been drawn up between the smaller authority and the trust fund and that trust fund transactions will be accounted for separately from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 onwards. We also note that trust fund fixed assets have been correctly excluded from the figures in Section 2, Box 9.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

None

#### 3 External auditor certificate 2018/19

We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2019.

External Auditor Name

PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP

External Auditor Signature

Date

31/07/2019

\* Note: the NAO issued guidance applicable to external auditors' work on limited assurance reviews for 2018/19 in Auditor Guidance Note AGN/02. The AGN is available from the NAO website ([www.nao.org.uk](http://www.nao.org.uk))

## Clerk

---

**From:** SBA <SBA@pkf-littlejohn.com>  
**Sent:** 03 October 2019 16:25  
**To:** Clerk; SBA  
**Subject:** RE: Qualified Audit Opinion Query

Dear Ms Bell

Further to your email and our telephone conversation, I would like to clarify a number of points we discussed.

Firstly, our report refers to the Service Level agreement being effective from 1 April 2019. This was based on information originally provided, however it has subsequently come to light that the agreement, signed 21 March 2019, is effective from **1 April 2018**. As a result of this, the basis of preparation of the 2018/19 AGAR of Cranleigh Parish Council would appear compliant with the agreement i.e. it does not separate out the transactions relating to the charitable trust from those of the Council. However, the figures relating to 2017/18 are also prepared on this basis and as this is prior to the effective date of the agreement, we can not conclude that they are in line with proper practice. Our opinion would still be qualified in this respect.

We note, and have stated in our report that the assets of the trust fund have correctly been excluded from Box 9, with the prior year restated accordingly. This is in line with our expectation and proper practice.

We confirm that in subsequent years we note the Council would propose to respond 'Yes' to Section 1, Assertion 9, to signify the Council has fulfilled its responsibility as a trustee and 'No' to Section 2, Box 11, as the figures will include those transactions of the trust fund covered by the Service Level agreement. All things being equal, we would not qualify our opinion in this respect.

Once we have issued our report and certified closure, we are unable to reissue our opinion. Therefore please feel free to publish a copy of this email alongside our report to clarify such matters. In addition, it would be acceptable for the Council to publish any such further information and documentation that it sees fit to explain the circumstances surrounding the accounting for the trust fund.

We trust this clarifies our position.

Kind regards

**SBA Team**

For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP  
T +44 (0) 20 7516 2200  
[sba@pkf-littlejohn.com](mailto:sba@pkf-littlejohn.com)

For and on behalf of  
**PKF Littlejohn LLP**  
15 Westferry Circus  
London E14 4HD  
United Kingdom  
[www.pkf-littlejohn.com](http://www.pkf-littlejohn.com)

Tel: +44(0)20 7516 2200