

CAVERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Review of Effectiveness of Internal Auditor for the year 2020/21

Expected Standard		Evidence of Achievement	Has the standard been met?
1	Scope of Internal Audit	The scope of audit work includes reference to the risk management processes and internal controls. Terms of reference were approved on 17 July 2019 and were set out in the letter of appointment of the internal auditor.	Yes Yes
2	Independence	The Internal Auditor has direct access to the RFO and if necessary to the Chairman. The annual report was made by letter addressed directly to Caversfield Parish Council and signed personally by the auditor. The auditor does not have any other role in relation to Caversfield Parish Council.	Yes
3	Competence	The report received and comments from the internal audit inspection were seen by Parish Council. The internal audit report was discussed by the full Council at the meeting on 5 May 2021. The Cashbook and the most recent bank statement were available at each Council meeting for inspection and checking. There is no evidence that internal audit work has not been carried out ethically.	Yes Yes
4	Relationships	Responsibilities are defined in the job description for the Clerk/RFO and responsibilities for Councillors are stated under risk management and in the Internal Financial Controls Policy. The Clerk/RFO has access via the website to the Governance and Accountability Guide.	Yes Yes
5	Audit Planning and Reporting	The Annual Return was signed on 13 April 2021 by the Internal Auditor.	Yes
6	Internal Audit Work	Financial statements and bank reconciliations were produced by the Clerk/RFO for inspection at bi-monthly Council meetings, these were reviewed by the PC (see Minutes). An analysis of income and expenditure for setting the Precept was produced for review by the PC at the January 2021 meeting. Invoices have been	Yes Yes

Expected Standard		Evidence of Achievement	Has the standard been met?
		checked virtually and the payments made by bank transfer.	
7	Understanding the organisation, needs and objectives	The annual audit plan shows how audit work will provide assurance in relation to the PC's annual governance statement. Accounts are held on the computer and are backed up regularly.	Yes Yes
8	Being seen as a catalyst for change	The insurance was fully reviewed but due to the COVID-19 pandemic very few other projects were undertaken.	Yes
9	Be forward looking	When identifying risks and updating reviews, changes advised by national bodies are incorporated.	Yes
10	Be challenging	In drawing attention to risks and to new possibilities, the PC responds in ways that are appropriate and proportional to the size and budget of a small Parish Council.	Yes
11	Ensure the right resources are available	Finance for internal audit is included under in a separate budget when setting the precept. The internal auditor is a qualified Parish Clerk and fully understands the Parish Council and legal and corporate framework in which it operates. Access to all the latest Guidelines is available via the appropriate websites.	Yes Yes Yes

Agreed at a meeting on 5 August 2021: Minute reference 3/8/21 10. b.

Signed: _____ Date: 3 August 2021
Responsible Financial Officer

Signed: _____ Date: 3 August 2021
Chairman