## Internal Audit Report

(to be read in conjunction with the Annual Internal Audit Report in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return)

Name of council:	Broughton & Old Dalby Parish Council		
Name of Internal Auditor:	Terry Brown	Date of report:	4/5/2023
Year ending:	31 March 2023	Date audit carried out:	April 2023

Internal audit is the periodic independent review of a council's internal controls resulting in an assurance report designed to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities and operating procedures under the council's control. Managing the council's internal controls should be a day-to-day function of the staff and management and not left for internal audit.

The council is required to take appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit and to respond to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit. Failure to take appropriate action may lead to a qualified audit opinion.

## To the Chair of the Council:

In accordance with the terms of my engagement I have undertaken a review of Broughton & Old Dalby Parish Council's records, policies and procedures for the financial year ending 31st March 2023 and I enclose a completed and signed Annual Internal Audit Report for the AGAR 2022/23.

The internal audit exercise involves the testing of the evidence of and evidence of compliance with the 15 statements contained in the Annual Internal Audit Report of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)

## The statements refer to:

- A. Maintenance of proper financial records
- B. Compliance with the Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and proper accounting for VAT
- C. Adequacy of risk management arrangements
- D. Effective budgeting and budgetary control
- E. Identification of income due and timely collection and banking of such monies
- F. Proper administration of petty cash (where appropriate)
- G. Proper administration of salaries of employees and expenses paid.
- H. Maintenance of an accurate and reliable asset register
- The completion of regular bank reconciliations
- J. The correct basis and accurate preparation of year-end accounts
- K. Whether the Council has met its responsibilities as a trustee (where appropriate)
- L. Correctly applying the exercise of public rights during the previous year period.

There continues to be clear evidence that the long standing Clerk provides a confident and accurate supervision of the accounting and governance functions of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council makes use of a very well organised website that gives a clear structure to the information that parishioners will seek to find.

Agenda and minutes are very well presented.

There is an effective regime of internal control with Councillors checking all receipts and payments at each monthly meeting through to a bank reconciliation all of which is then signed off.

The Parish Council has a Reserves Policy under consideration to help it manage the forward planning of larger projects and expenses.

The Parish Council does not have responsibility for any Trust Funds. The accounts show a Poors Fund which is not a trust fund but a specific piece of income from rental which is used for a specific purpose and it dates back many years,

Last the Clerk has confirmed that the correct order of business is for the Parish Council to note ( and discuss) the Annual Internal Audit Report and then on that basis to discuss and sign Section 1 and then Section 2

Many thanks to the Clerk for her detailed and helpful responses with this audit.

This report is based on the evidence made available to me. It would be incorrect to view internal audit as the detailed inspection of all records and transactions of a council in order to detect error or fraud. Consequently, the report is limited to those matters set out.

Yours sincerely,

Terry Brown

Internal Auditor to Broughton & Old Dalby Parish Council on behalf of LRALC

01476 516366

The figures submitted in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return are:

	Year ending 31 March 2022	Year ending 31 March 2023
Balances brought forward	43510	48446
2. Annual precept	29500	32000
3. Total other receipts	3540	2311
4. Staff costs	8152	10303

5. Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0
6. Total other payments	19952	22951
7. Balances carried forward	48446	49863
8. Total cash and investments	48446	49863
Total fixed assets and long-term assets	148442	149046
10. Total borrowings	0	0

The proper practices referred to in Accounts and Audit Regulations are set out in *Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England (2018)*. It is a guide to the accounting practices to be followed by local councils and sets out the appropriate standard of financial reporting to be followed. A copy of the guide is available for free download from:

http://www.leicestershireandrutlandalc.gov.uk/uploads/governance-and-accountability-for-smaller-authorities-in-england-2019-sections-1-5-1.pdf

## **Annual Internal Audit Report 2022/23**

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**During** the financial year ended 31 March 2023, 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 2022/23 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.	V	/	
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.	V	/	
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	V		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.			V
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.	V		
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.	V		
K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2021/22, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2021/22 AGAR tick "not covered")			/
L. The authority published the required information on a website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the relevant legislation.	V		
M. In the year covered by this AGAR, the authority correctly provided for a period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (during the 2022-23 AGAR period, were public rights in relation to the 2021-22 AGAR evidenced by a notice on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set).	~		
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2021/22 AGAR (see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes).	V		
O. (For local councils only)  Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes	No	Not applicable

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

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

1. Smin

Date

4/5/2027

\*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).