



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held at the Methodist Church, Shropshire St, Audlem,  
on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7.00pm**

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Phillip Baker  
Charles Cavill  
Carl Dovey  
David Jones  
Ryan Jones  
Paul Smart

**Absent:**

Tim Brooksbank  
William Pearson  
David Lambourne

**In Attendance:**

Sarah Windridge (Clerk)  
7 members of the public

**25.28 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Brooksbank and Lambourne

**25.29 Declarations of Interest**

None received

**25.30 Requests for Dispensation**

None received

**25.31 Co-Option**

Applications have been received and the Parish Council will confirm appointment at the meeting in July.

**25.32 Public Session**

**It was RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders at 7:01 pm**

A number of members of public addressed the Council. Comments and questions are summarised below with responses.

1. **Question:** Two members of the public asked for an update on the police investigation

**Answer:** The Clerk will read out a statement with the latest update.

**It was RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders**

**b) Cheshire East Ward Councillor**

Councillor Rachael Bailey sent her apologies.

**c) Police report**

The Clerk read out the police report, attached to the minutes as appendix A.

The Clerk read out a statement from Detective Inspector Martin Caldwell, attached to the minutes with appendix A.

### 25.33 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Annual meeting held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

### 25.34 Planning Applications

a) The following planning applications were considered:

#### 25/1670/CLPUD Certificate of Lawful Use / Development – Proposed

**Site address:** Bath Farm Bath Lane, Audlem, Crewe, Cheshire East, CW3 0BN

**Development Proposal:** Certificate of proposed lawful development for a Single-storey rear and side extensions to existing house

It was **RESOLVED** to **SUPPORT** the planning application.

#### 25/0384/CLPUD Certificate of Lawful Use / Development – Proposed

**Site address:** 8 Kingbur Place, Audlem, Crewe, Cheshire East, CW3 0DL

**Development Proposal:** Certificate of lawful proposed development for the installation of solar panels and electric vehicle charging point.

It was **RESOLVED** to respond with **NO COMMENT** to the planning application.

b) No planning updates have been received

### 25.35 Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation as of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025 was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting as well as copies of the corresponding bank statement. Hard copies of invoices and receipts were inspected at the meeting by Cllrs Baker and R Jones.

Members noted that as of the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025, the bank account balance stood at **£83,353.13**.

Members **RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliations for May 2025 be confirmed and that the Chair be instructed to sign. The Bank Reconciliation is attached as Appendix B

### 25.36 Payments for Approval

a) Members **RESOLVED** to approve a list of payments totaling **£3953.72**

b) Members **RESOLVED** to approve the setup of a direct debit to repay the PWLB loan for the purchase of Turnpike Fields. Two payments per year at £5231.83 each.

c) The purchase of hi vis jackets for community events. Cllr Baker has managed to borrow some for the latest event so this item will be deferred to a subsequent meeting. Cllr R Jones also confirmed that he has lots of hi vis jackets which the Parish Council can use.

### 25.37 Internal Audit and Accounts

a) Members **RESOLVED** to confirm the independence of the Internal Auditor.

b) Members reviewed the Internal Audit report and recommendations

The full internal audit report has been circulated to members as is summarised as follows:

- The AGAR (Annual Governance and Audit Review) submission for 2023/24 was incomplete, missing key documents including bank reconciliation and variance explanations.
- Major council disruption occurred in mid-2024: most councillors, together with the Clerk, resigned.
- There was no financial oversight from July 2024, and bank account access was restricted due to mandate issues.
- Elections in November 2024 filled 7 of 11 seats, restoring quorum.

- The last audited accounts were for 2020/21. The 2021/22 accounts were restated to include a £62,696 debt under police investigation. This amount currently overstates available funds.
- The 2022/23 AGAR showed a discrepancy in total borrowings (£3,687 difference).
- In 2023/24, Box 2 (precept) was incorrectly reported as £129,314, double the actual figure of £64,657, based on both the precept demand and verified receipts.
- A £59,519 discrepancy remains unexplained in the 2023/24 accounts.
- **Conclusion:** The council faced significant governance, staffing, and financial control issues during this period, leading to AGAR inaccuracies and incomplete reporting.

c) Members **RESOLVED** to confirm the actions required based on Internal Auditor recommendations.

The following recommendations have been made.

- The Financial Regulations were updated in March 2025 following the application of the Procurement Act. Council should consider these changes at a full council meeting.
- It is recommended that all invoices be verified and certified to ensure that they are valid as listed in the payments schedule presented for payment. This has occurred at every meeting of the newly formed Parish Council.
- It is recommended that the Council make arrangements for dual authorisation of online payments. This is already the case.
- The VAT claim for QTR 2,3 and 4 should be made without delay. This will be actioned as soon as possible.
- A suitably designed certification stamp should be in place providing for evidencing of these checks and payment authorisation and applied to all invoices.

Members **RESOLVED** to authorise the purchase of a certification stamp, at a cost of £19.95.

d) Minutes from the Finance Committee meeting were circulated to members before the meeting and attached as Appendix C. Members noted the minutes and the recommendations of the Finance Committee.

Figures for the 2024-25 Annual Return were amended by the Finance Committee to reflect the current status of the Parish Council account. The Finance Committee recommend that the amended accounting figures be submitted to the External Auditor with an accompanying report to explain the variances.

The Finance Committee has recommended that the monthly budget is updated and amended and submitted to review to Full Council at each meeting. The Finance Committee has recommended that the Financial Regulations, circulated to members before the meeting, be adopted.

### **25.38 Annual return ending 31st March 2025**

The Clerk explained to members that the Annual Governance and Audit Review (AGAR) takes place annually for all Parish Councils. A Parish Council the size of Audlem is subject to a full review which requires completion of a year-end bank reconciliation, an assessment by an independent internal auditor, completion of the Annual Governance Statement, completion of Annual Accounting Statements, and any further documentation required such as an explanation of variances. The Parish Council will publish all of the required audit documentation on the Parish Council website, and residents will be notified via the website and notice board, that the unaudited accounts will be available for inspection by arrangement with the Clerk. All Parish Councils are audited by PKF Littlejohn who will write to the Parish Council in August or September 2025 to confirm the result of the audit. This will also be published on the website.

Cllr Dovey expressed the frustration shared by all Councillors present that the accounts had been left unaudited by previous clerks and Council members, and assured all present that the Parish Council would work closely with external auditors to ensure that the situation is remedied.

#### **a) Final bank reconciliation and accounts 2024/25**

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the year end bank reconciliation as checked by the Internal Auditor. The bank reconciliation is attached as appendix D.

#### **b) Internal Audit report 2024/25 (AGAR part 2 page 4)**

Members considered the AGAR Internal Audit Report and noted that the Council's system of Internal Controls was not adequate. The internal report is attached as appendix E.

#### **c) Annual Governance statement (AGAR part 2 page 5)**

Members considered each internal control statement and completed the form which was signed by the Chairman.

The Annual Governance Statement is attached as appendix F

**d) Summary accounting statements (AGAR part 2 page 6)**

Members considered each accounting statement and completed the form which was signed by the Chairman. The Annual Accounting Statement is attached as appendix G

The Clerk confirmed that the notice period of public rights will be from 24 June to 4<sup>th</sup> August.

It was **RESOLVED** to complete and sign all forms for the Annual Governance Audit Review.

**25/39 Parish Matters**

a) Cheshire East Lane Rental Scheme Consultation. Members declined to comment.

b) Village Spring Clean. Members agreed that Councillors would help ADAS with a village clean up and plan a community litter pick for a later date.

c) Members confirmed arrangements for the use of the Buttermarket, and the Use of the Buttermarket Policy was adapted to reflect these.

d) Members confirmed matters to be discussed with the PCSO regarding policing in the village. Issues raised included:

- Requesting more police presence in the village,
- Increase in antisocial behaviour
- Traffic
- Speeding
- Drug use
- Engagement with the youth in the village

Councillor Dovey reported to Councillors that he and Councillor Baker had a meeting with the Canal and Rivers Trust regarding water safety, and the management of trees along the canal. The Engagement Manager will provide a response to concerns raised which will be reported at a subsequent meeting.

Councillor Dovey reported to Councillors that the Music Festival was a great success and wished to publicly thank the organisers.

**25/40 To confirm new and amended policies**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Financial Regulations.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following policies:

Code of Conduct

Data Breach Policy

Data Breach Policy Record

Finance Committee Terms of Reference

Policy Committee Terms of Reference

Personnel Committee Terms of Reference

The Recording of Meetings Policy was deferred until after the meeting. The policies will be uploaded to the website.

**25/41 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

It is considered in terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, that the following item(s) will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to the contractual and legal matters.

Members **RESOLVED that: pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded.**

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**25/42 Turnpike Field Update**

No further correspondence has been received by the Parish Council's solicitors regarding ownership of Turnpike Field.

Councillors discussed options for the use of Turnpike Field, which will be confirmed at the July meeting.

Cllr R Jones will organise a meeting for residents who would like to help with the management of Turnpike Field.

## Appendix A

### Police Report

Our Police Surgeries continue at the Annexe. I look to do three per month when possible.

On June 1<sup>st</sup> we held a security bike marking event on the the public car park. We had a good response and marked a number of bikes; we will look to do another one later in the year.

A talk to children at the ABC pre school took place as part of their road safety week.

Special Constables attended the music festival with no noted issues. A member of the public did complain about parking on Tollgate Drive and claimed pavements were blocked.

The issues with youths causing Anti-Social Behaviour have died down slightly, but we are aware that with the summer holidays around the corner incidents could increase, we will monitor and engage with children around the village.

We are aware of a young male riding an illegal E Scooter around the village. When police come across him, he will make away at high speed. He has his face completely covered making it difficult for us to identify him. We do have some information of where the individual might live and enquiries are ongoing.

We have had an increase in shed and garage breaks with incidents in Burleydam, Back Coole Lane, Wrenbury, Wybunbury and others. We advise residents to check security as in some cases high value power and gardening tools have been taken. We encourage people to be vigilant and call 101 to report suspicious activity. Always call 999 if you see a crime in progress.

A police presence will be at Party on the Park for reassurance and to engage with the attendees. We are always concerned about underage drinking of alcohol at the event. We will confiscate any alcohol found and advise parents should they be present.

Your local officers continue to be PC Dan Talbot and PCSO Nick Jarvis. The Sergeant for the area is Matt Stonier.

### Letter from Detective Inspector Martin Caldwell Eastern Exploitation Team (MS&OIC)

The investigating officer has brought to my attention the letter from Audlem Parish council requesting an update on our investigation. This has been my first week in post and as such I have been very busy adjusting to my new roles and responsibilities. I will however complete a full reply by letter by the end of this week which should be with yourselves early next week. Regards, Martin Caldwell – Eastern Exploitation Team (MS&OIC)Cheshire Constabulary | Crewe Police Station

## Appendix B

### Bank Reconciliation

#### **Audlem Parish Council** **RECONCILIATION - Lloyds Bank 31-05-2025**

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From Accounts .....	£83,353.13
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Payments not cashed .....	Add .....
Receipts not entered .....	Subtract .....

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<b>Statement should be .....</b>	<b>£83,353.13</b>
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Money In	£0.00	Balance on 01 May 2025	£87,556.77
Money Out	£4,269.64	Balance on 31 May 2025	£83,353.13

**Your Transactions**

Date	Description	Type	Money In (£)	Money Out (£)	Balance (£)
01 May 25	GOCARDLESS SCRIBE-3M9BSGRWFSH	DD		66.00	87,556.77
09 May 25	NEST IT000009380973	DD		84.53	87,472.24
16 May 25	EDF ENERGY A-447658B2-001	DD		34.50	87,437.74
19 May 25	SERVICE CHARGES REF : 454959581	PAY		8.50	87,429.24
20 May 25	WATER PLUS 4186792694	DD		13.68	87,415.56
21 May 25	3 COUNTIES CLEANIN 200000001559256736 INV-781	FPO		420.00	86,995.56
21 May 25	LEE JAKEMAN 500000001563267858 INV -	FPO		553.30	86,442.26
21 May 25	THENMEDIA 400000001568112287 TMS-	FPO		63.00	86,379.26
27 May 25	MICHAEL DOLAN	BP		531.67	85,847.59
27 May 25	SARAH WINDRIDGE	BP		1,258.26	84,589.33
27 May 25	PQR LIMITED 500000001566509965 SHI-2718	FPO		232.20	84,357.13
27 May 25	RB & SONS PLUMBING 300000001569935907 273 - 1	FPO		504.00	83,853.13
28 May 25	AUDLEM DISTRICT AM 600000001566823569 GRANT -	FPO		250.00	83,603.13
28 May 25 (Continued on next page)	AUDLEM DISTRICT AM 400000001571930079 GRANT -	FPO		250.00	83,353.13

Appendix CMinutes from the Finance Committee meeting**Audlem Parish Council Finance Committee Minutes 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7.00pm via Teams**

**In attendance:** Councillors Phillip Baker and Tim Brooksbank, Lee Jakeman and Sarah Windridge (Clerk)

**1. 2024-25 AGAR submission**

Mr Jakeman circulated this ahead of the meeting and confirmed that the Parish Council will not be able to tick all of the boxes on the AGAR. This document explains what the previous situation with the accounts has been and why the accounts have not been signed off by the external auditor.

Accounts from 2020 to 2025 were reviewed and members were advised that accounting processes in place during this period were inadequate, resulting in inaccurate yearly accounts and incorrect Annual Return figures.

Figures for the 2024-25 Annual Return were amended to reflect the current status of the Parish Council accounts.

Explanations of variances and inaccuracies will be drafted by Mr Jakeman and circulated to full Council. These will be reviewed at the Full Parish Council meeting, and, if approved, submitted to the external auditor.

**2. 2024-25 Internal Audit report**

Members reviewed the report and noted the recommendations, which will form part of the tasks of the Finance Committee during the financial year.

**3. The current budget**

It was agreed that that the Clerk would re-draft the current budget, which would be presented to Full Council at monthly meetings.

**4. CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy )payment**

It was agreed that the Clerk would research and confirm the full amount of CIL payments received and create a report for Councillors, and Cheshire Council. The CIL payments will also be incorporated into the monthly budget.

**5. New budget**

It was agreed that that the Clerk would create a new budget for the Finance Committee, with detailed cost codes.

**6. Financial Regulations**

These were reviewed by members and tailored to meet the needs of the Parish Council. The updated Financial Regulations will be submitted to full Council for approval.

**7. Financial Risk Register**

This was deferred to the next meeting.

**8. Financial policies including:**

- a. Grants policy
- b. Reserves Policy
- c. Internet Banking policy
- d. Procurement Policy

These were deferred to the next meeting.

**9. VAT reclaims**

Due to a lack of Government Gateway log in, a VAT reclaim has not been submitted.

The Clerk or Mr Jakeman will aim to complete this as soon as possible.

**10. Asset register**

This was acknowledged as an onerous task which will require substantial work to complete. This will remain an ongoing agenda item.

**Date of next meeting:**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Additional items to be added to the agenda:

Investment Strategy Policy

Grant application process

## Bank reconciliation – pro forma

This reconciliation should include **all** bank and building society accounts, including short term investment accounts. It **must** appear in a column headed "Year ending 31 March 20xx" in Section 2 of the AGAR – and will also agree to Box 7 where the accounts are prepared on a cash and payments basis. Please complete the highlighted boxes, remembering that unpresented cheques should be entered as negative numbers.

Name of smaller authority: Audlem Parish Council

County area (local councils and parish meetings only): Cheshire

### Financial year ending 31 March 2025

Prepared by (Name and Role): Sarah Windridge - Parish Clerk

Date: 12/06/2025

	£	£
<b>Balance per bank statements as at 31/3/25:</b>		
Lloyds Current	<u>47,489.36</u>	47,489.36
Petty cash float (if applicable)	N/A	-
Less: any unpresented cheques as at 31/3/25 <b>(enter these as negative numbers)</b>		
Nil	<u>                    </u>	-
Add: any un-banked cash as at 31/3/25		
Nil	<u>                    </u>	-
<b>Net balances as at 31/3/25 (Box 8)</b>		<b><u>47,489.36</u></b>



## Annual Internal Audit Report 2024/25

AUDLEM PARISH COUNCIL

WWW.AUDLEMP.C.CO.UK ENTER PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

During the financial year ended 31 March 2025, 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 2024/25 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.	✓		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓	Subject to items notified in report	
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.	✓		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.			✓
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.		✓	
I. 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.	✓		
K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2023/24, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2023/24 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.		✓	
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 2024-25 AGAR period, were public rights in relation to the 2023-24 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 2023/24 AGAR (see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes).		✓	
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

31/05/2025 DD/MM/YYYY DD/MM/YYYY

ENTER NAME OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

Date 31/05/2025

\*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).

## Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25

We acknowledge as the members of:

AUDLEM 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 2025, 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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.
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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.
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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.
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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has met all of its responsibilities where, as a body corporate, it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

\*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 must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

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

12/06/2025

and recorded as minute reference:

25.38 (C) REFERENCE

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

Chair

Clerk

 REQUIRED  
 REQUIRED

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## Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25 for

EN Audlem Parish Council

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2024 £	31 March 2025 £	
1. Balances brought forward	118,027	99,812	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	64,657	78,160	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	22,455	7,033	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	16,213	16,596	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	10,464	10,464	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	22,706	47,759	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	155,756	110,186	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	37,115	47,489	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – <b>To agree with bank reconciliation.</b>
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	263,809	263,809	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	229,844	225,834	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	N/A	
11a. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)		✓		The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
11b. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)			✓	The figures in the accounting statements above exclude any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2025 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

04/06/2025

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

12/06/2025

as recorded in minute reference:

25.38 d) MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by Chair of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

