

# Annual Internal Audit Report 2020/21

## NASH PARISH COUNCIL

Nashpc.org.uk

INTERPRETING AND FILLING IN THE WEBSITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

During the financial year ended 31 March 2021, 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 2020/21 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.	✓		
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	✓		see report
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.		✓	Do NOT use see report
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.		✓	no physical assets
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 2019/20, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2019/20 AGAR tick "not covered")	✓		
L. The authority publishes information on a website/webpage, up to date at the time of the internal audit, in accordance with the Transparency code for smaller authorities.	✓		
M. The authority, during the previous year (2019-20) correctly provided for the period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (evidenced by the notice published on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set).	✓		
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2019/20 AGAR (see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes).	✓		
O. (For local councils only)	Yes	No	Not applicable
Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.			✓

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

25/4/21

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

KEVIN LAWRENCE ADAMS

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

Date

25/4/21

\*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).



**INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT**  
**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> March 2021**

**Nash Parish Council**

I have carried out an internal audit in accordance with the Council's needs and in line with the Internal Control Objectives listed in the annual return for Local Councils in England.

**Internal Audit opinion**

Based upon the documents and evidence presented to me My opinion is that :-

The internal controls put in place during 2020/21 were adequate for the Council's purposes.

In my opinion the following points need to be made:-

1. Control objective C - Risks

The council has now produced an updated risk register and placed it on the website

Note that – the authority is required to review its risk register at least annually.

2. Control objective F - Petty cash

The council does not operate a petty cash system.

**Recommendation** - that the council does not use petty cash in future.

3. Control objective H - Assets and investments.

The council has no fixed assets, or long term investments. The only current asset the council has is its current bank account for which there are complete bank statements.

4. Transparency

There is £ 1783.73 held in the transparency reserve.

The council may wish to consider the cost of the Clerk's time in maintaining the website and funding that work from the transparency reserve by making a transfer to the general fund from the transparency reserve for 19/20 and 20/21.

Kevin Lawrence Adams bsc

25th April 2021



Parish

Nash parish council

Year

20-21

ref	Question	Yes / No	Comments
<b>A</b>	<b>Appropriate books of account during year</b>		
	Are there account books	Yes	
	Are they up to date	Yes	
	Are they accurate and agree with vouchers	Yes	
<b>B 1</b>	<b>The councils financial regulations been followed</b>		
	Does the council have financial regulations	Yes	
	Are the clerk / finance officer / members aware of them	Yes	
	Have they been followed	Yes	
<b>B 2</b>	<b>Payments are supported by invoices</b>		
	do the accounts tally to invoices	Yes	
	do the payments/cheques tally to invoices	Yes	
<b>B 3</b>	<b>Vat is properly accounted for</b>		
	are invoices vatable	none	
	is vat calculated correctly	n/a	
	has vat been reclaimed from HMR&C	No	
<b>C</b>	<b>the council assesses the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviews the adequacy of controls to manage those risks</b>		
	Are there clear objectives	Yes	Setting up parish plan
	are risks to each objective identified	Yes	
	are those risks evaluated	YES	
	are controls in place to ameliorate those risks	Yes	
	have arrangements been reviewed	Yes	
<b>D 1</b>	<b>The annual precept requirement resulted from an adequate budgeting process</b>		
	was there a budget	Yes	
	was it formally reviewed and approved by the council	Yes	
	was the precept notified to the billing authority	Yes	Set January each year
<b>D2</b>	<b>Progress against the budget was adequately monitored</b>		
	Are regular financial reports made to the council	Yes	Balance and cheques to be drawn reported
	Does the council take appropriate action where necessary regarding potential budget over/underspends	n/a	
<b>E</b>	<b>Expected income was fully received based upon correct prices</b>		
	does the council have a scale of charges	No	No chargeable services
	was it approved by council	n/a	
	was the precept received in full	Yes	Precept
	was income received on time and banked promptly	Yes	
	was vat charged correctly	n/a	
	was vat charged paid to HMR&C / netted of claim to HMR&C	n/a	



Ref	Question	Yes / No	Comments
<b>F</b>	<b>Petty cash payments are supported by receipts</b>		
	are there petty cash payments	No	Clerk/members incur exp and reclaims
	are amounts backed by receipts	n/a	Where applicable
	was approval gained, or payments within fin reg guidelines	Yes	Minuted exp repayment to clerk
	was vat accounted for properly – vat number on receipt	n/a	
<b>G</b>	<b>Salaries to employees and members allowances paid in accordance with council policies</b>		
	are there council policies re employees and members allowances	Yes	Clerk salary when clerk was in post
	have they been followed	Yes	
	have PAYE and NI been accounted for correctly, or	Yes	
	is there evidence of correct self certification by employees / members	n/a	
<b>H</b>	<b>Asset and investment registers are complete and accurate and properly maintained</b>		
	Is there an asset / investment register	No	No physical assets
	is it updated for acquisitions and disposals in a timely manner	n/a	
	is it reported to council	n/a	
<b>I</b>	<b>Bank reconciliations are carried out periodically and at year end</b>		
	have bank reconciliations been carried out	Yes	
	are they accurate	Yes	
	were they timely	Yes	
<b>J 1</b>	<b>Year end accounts were prepared on a correct accounting basis, agreed with the cash book and supported by an adequate audit trail</b>		
	is there a cash book	Yes	
	are there accounts	Yes	
	are the accounts accurate	Yes	
	are the entries in the accounts backed by adequate evidence	Yes	
<b>J 2</b>	<b>Where appropriate are debtors and creditors properly recorded</b>		
	are there debtors	No	
	are they recorded properly	n/a	
	is recovery action carried out	n/a	
	are write offs approved by council or within fin reg limits	n/a	
	are there creditors	No	
	are they paid promptly	n/a	
K	Did the authority meet exemption criteria for limited assurance in 19/20 and did it correctly declare itself exempt	Yes Yes	
L	The authority publishes information on a web site Was the information up to date	Yes Yes	
M	The authority demonstrated during 2019/20 it provided exercise of Public Rights	Yes	
N	The authority complied with the publication requirements of the 19/20 AGAR.	Yes	
<b>M</b>	<b>Have the Council met its responsibilities as trustees of Trust Funds where appropriate</b>		
	Does the council hold trust funds	No	
	Have Trust funds been accounted for properly		
	Have Trusts been monitored by the Council		
	Have custodial trustee roles been properly exercised		