

Section 1 – Accounting statements for

LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

COPY

Readers should note that throughout this annual return references to a 'local council' or 'council' also relate to a parish meeting.

	31 March 2009	31 March 2010	
1 Balances brought forward	15014	13975	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 (+) Annual precept	6000	6000	Total amount of precept receivable or received in the year.
3 (+) Total other receipts	837	181	Total receipts or income as recorded in the cashbook less the precept received. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grant
4 (-) Staff costs	2636	2681	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 expense.
5 (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	NIL	NIL	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on borrowings (if any).
6 (-) Total other costs	5239	3579	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	13975	13896	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6)
8 Total cash and short term investments	13975	13896	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 and long term assets	3150	3150	The recorded book value at 31 March of all fixed assets owned by the council and any other long term assets e.g. loans to third parties and any long term investments.
10 Total borrowings	NIL	NIL	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11 Trust funds (including charitable) disclosure note	NO	NO	The council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing trust funds or assets. (Readers should note that the figures above do not include any trust transactions.)

I certify that the accounting statements in this annual return present fairly the financial position of the council and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be, for the year ended 31 March 2010.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer

B/L 19 L

Date

04/05/2010

I confirm that these accounting statements were approved by the council and recorded as minutes reference

13.3.

Date

04/05/2010

Signed by Chair of the meeting at which these accounting statements were approved.

[Signature]

Date

4 May 2010

Section 2 – Annual governance statement

COPY

We acknowledge as the members of LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including 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 2010, that:

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

This annual governance statement is approved by the local council and recorded as minute reference

13.3 dated 04/05/2010

Signed on behalf of [Signature] LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Signed by: Chair [Signature] Date 4 May 2010

Signed by: Clerk [Signature] Date 04/05/2010

***Note:** Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a **separate sheet** for each 'No' response that has been given; and describe what action is being taken to address the weaknesses identified.

Section 3 – External auditor’s certificate and opinion

Certificate

COPY

We certify that we have completed the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2010

LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Respective responsibilities of the council and the auditor

The council is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The council is also responsible for preparing an annual return which:

- summarises the council accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2010; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are important to our audit responsibilities

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit in accordance with guidance issued by the Audit Commission and, on the basis of our review of the annual return and supporting information, to report whether any matters that come to our attention give cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

External auditor’s report

~~(Except for the matters reported below)~~* on the basis of our review, in our opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission’s requirements and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. (*delete as appropriate).

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

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

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

External auditor’s signature Mazars LLP

External auditor’s name Mazars LLP, Southampton, SO15 2BE

Date 3 SEPTEMBER 2010

Note: The auditor signing this page has been appointed by the Audit Commission and is reporting to you that they have carried out and completed all the work that is required of them by law. For further information please refer to the Audit Commission’s publication entitled *Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and of Audited Small Bodies*.



(NAME): LITCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Notice of conclusion of the audit and right to inspect the Annual Return
Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2010

Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/533) as amended by the Accounts and Audit
(Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/564)

	Notes
1. The audit of accounts for the Council/ Meeting (a) for the year ended 31 March 2010 has been concluded.	(a) Delete as appropriate
2. The Annual Return is available for inspection by any local government elector of the area of the Council Meeting (a) on application to:	
(b) <u>BRYAN LEIGH, RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER</u> <u>RIVERSIDE COTTAGE, RIVER LANE</u> <u>EAST BILNEY, BEREHAM,</u> <u>NR20 4HS</u>	(b) Insert name, position and address of the person to whom local government electors should apply to inspect the Annual Return
between the hours of (c) <u>0900</u> and (c) <u>1600</u> on Mondays to Fridays (excluding public holidays), when any local government elector may make copies of the Annual Return	(c) Insert the times between which local government electors may inspect the Annual Return
3. Copies will be provided to any local government elector on payment of £ <u>1</u> (d) for each copy of the Annual Return.	(d) Insert a reasonable sum for photocopying costs
Announcement made by: (e) <u>B. Leigh CLERK</u>	(e) Insert name and position of person placing the notice
Date of announcement: (f) <u>29. 09. 10.</u>	(f) Insert date of placing of the notice