

# Section 1 – Annual governance statement 2015/16

We acknowledge as the members of:

Enter name of  
smaller authority here:

*Lea Dutton 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 2016, that:

	Agreed			'Yes' means that this smaller 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"/>			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"/>		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 smaller authority to conduct its business or on its finances.	<input checked="" 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 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 smaller authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			considered the financial and other risks it faces and has 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"/>			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 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 smaller authority and, where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements.	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>			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 this smaller authority and recorded as minute reference:

2016/49.  
dated 15. 6. 2016.

Signed by:

Chair

*[Signature]*  
SIGNATURE REQUIRED

dated

15/6/2016

Signed by:

Clerk

*Sarah Smart*

dated

15. 6. 2016

\*Note: Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response. Describe how this smaller authority will address the weaknesses identified.



# Section 2 – Accounting statements 2015/16 for

Enter name of smaller authority here:

[Empty box for name of smaller authority]

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2015 £	31 March 2016 £	
			Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures must agree to underlying financial records.
1. Balances brought forward	91286	106281	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	21200	21518	Total amount of precept or (for IDBs) rates and levies received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	16355	5096	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	6259	6403	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 expenses.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	None	None	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the smaller authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	16301	19689	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	106281	106803	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	106281	106803	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	10274	<del>139651</del> 45191 <del>12274</del>	The original Asset and Investment Register value of all fixed assets, plus other long term assets owned by the smaller authority as at 31 March
10. Total borrowings	None	None	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	The Council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets. N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2016 the accounting statements in this annual return present fairly the financial position of this smaller authority and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer

Sarah Smart

Date 07/05/2016

I confirm that these accounting statements were approved by this smaller authority on this date:

15/6/2016

and recorded as minute reference:

2016/49.

Signed by Chair of the meeting approving these accounting statements.

[Signature]

Date 15/6/2016



## Section 3 – External auditor certificate and report 2015/16 Certificate

We certify that we have completed our review of the annual return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2016 in respect of:

Enter name of  
smaller authority here:

FEN DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

This smaller authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The smaller authority prepares an annual return in accordance with proper practices which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2016; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

Our responsibility is to review the annual return in accordance with guidance issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (see note below). Our work does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and does not provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.

### External auditor report (ACCA0087)

Except for the matters reported below, on the basis of our review of the annual return, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Whilst we acknowledge the information received from the internal auditor notifying us that the smaller authority has performed a formal risk assessment in June 2016, there was no formal review carried out during the year under review. Section 1 Assertion 5 should therefore have been ticked as 'no'.

Section 2, Box 9: Information received from the smaller authority indicates that the assets have been revalued during the year as the increase in the Section 2 Box 9 figure of £34,917 is greater than the expenditure for the year in Box 6 of £19,689. Please note that proper practice, as specified in the Practitioners' Guide, only requires that assets are recorded at their original cost and no adjustment is required until disposal. Where original cost is not known a proxy such as insurance value may be used but this value should remain constant throughout the period of ownership and not be revised to reflect current values. Commercial concepts such as depreciation are not appropriate for smaller authorities. However, the proper practice to be applied for next year's Annual Return includes a change in respect of this and authorities may in future use any reasonable valuation method. Please ensure that fixed assets are valued in accordance with the applicable Practitioners' Guide in future years. Any change in the valuation method will require a restatement of the prior year figure.

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

We note that the smaller authority did not comply with Regulation 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 as it failed to make proper provision during the year 2016/17 for the exercise of public rights, since the approval date (15 June 2016) was after the start of the period for the exercise of public rights (6 June 2016). As a result, the smaller authority must answer 'No' to Assertion 4 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2016/17 and ensure that it makes proper provision for the exercise of public rights during 2017/18.

An explanation has been received in respect of the smaller authority's 'no' responses to Section 1 Assertions 2 and 7; however the explanation provided in respect of Assertion 2 suggests the 'no' response should have been to Assertion 5, see also the box above. Efforts were made to clarify this matter with the clerk but no response was received.

The Council should ensure that it has regard to the level of reserves held when considering future precept requests.

The Annual Return was not fully completed before submission for review as the smaller authority name has been omitted from Section 2.

External auditor signature

Paul Littlejohn W

External auditor name

PKF Littlejohn LLP

Date

29 September 2016



# Annual internal audit report 2015/16 to

Enter name of smaller authority here:

FEN DITTON PARISH COUNCIL

This smaller authority's internal audit, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls expected to be in operation during the financial year ended 31 March 2016.

Internal audit has been carried out in accordance with this smaller 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 smaller authority.

Internal control objective	Agreed? Please choose only one of the following		
	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been kept properly throughout the year.	✓		
B. This smaller authority met its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
C. This smaller 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.			✓ ①
G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this smaller 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 and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	✓		
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. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes ✓	No	Not applicable
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For any other risk areas identified by this smaller authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas below or on separate sheets if needed)

① No petty cash held.

Name of person who carried out the internal audit H. HEELIS (on behalf of Heelis & Lodge)

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit [Signature] Date 13/06/2016

\*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, internal audit must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).