

Annual Governance Statement 2015/16

We acknowledge as the members of: **STRATTON 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 NO* or N/A	'YES' means that the Council
1 We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	YES	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.	YES	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 the Council to conduct its business or on its finances.	YES	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.	YES	during the year has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this Council's accounts.
5 We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this Council and took 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 maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	YES	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 Council.
7 We took 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 considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this 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 years end if relevant.
9 Trust funds including charitable – in our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accounting responsibilities for 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 this Council and recorded as minute reference

Signed by
Chair

dated

Minute number

Signed by:
Clerk

dated

dated

*Note: Explanations for each 'No' response should be made, describing how this Council will address the weaknesses identified