

LUSTLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS AND PUBLICATION OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (EXEMPT AUTHORITY)

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Sections 25, 26 and 27
The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

NOTICE	NOTES
1. Date of announcement <u>1st JUNE 2024</u> (a) 2. Each year the smaller authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). The AGAR has been published with this notice. It will not be reviewed by the appointed auditor, since the smaller authority has certified itself as exempt from the appointed auditor's review. Any person interested has the right to inspect and make copies of the AGAR, the accounting records for the financial year to which it relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those records must be made available for inspection by any person interested. For the year ended 31 March 2024, these documents will be available on reasonable notice by application to: (b) Mrs E Wallace, Parish Clerk, Nutcracker Cottage, Lustleigh, TQ13 9SQ lustleighparishclerk@hotmail.com commencing on (c) <u>Monday 3 June 2024</u> and ending on (d) <u>Friday 12 July 2024</u> 3. Local government electors and their representatives also have: • The opportunity to question the appointed auditor about the accounting records; and • The right to make an objection which concerns a matter in respect of which the appointed auditor could either make a public interest report or apply to the court for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful. Written notice of an objection must first be given to the auditor and a copy sent to the smaller authority. The appointed auditor can be contacted at the address in paragraph 4 below for this purpose between the above dates only. 4. The smaller authority's AGAR is only subject to review by the appointed auditor if questions or objections raised under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 lead to the involvement of the auditor. The appointed auditor is: PKF Littlejohn LLP (Ref: SBA Team) 15 Westferry Circus Canary Wharf London E14 4HD (sba@pkf-l.com) 5. This announcement is made by Mrs E Wallace, Clerk and RFO	(a) Insert date of placing of the notice which must be not less than 1 day before the date in (c) below (b) Insert name, position and address/telephone number/ email address, as appropriate, of the Clerk or other person to which any person may apply to inspect the accounts (c) Insert date, which must be at least 1 day after the date of announcement in (a) above and at least 30 working days before the date appointed in (d) below (d) The inspection period between (c) and (d) must be 30 working days inclusive and must include the first 10 working days of July. (e) Insert name and position of person placing the notice – this person must be the responsible financial officer for the smaller authority

Annual Internal Audit Report 2023/24

LUSTLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

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During the financial year ended 31 March 2024, 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 2023/24 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.	✓		
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 2022/23, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2022/23 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 2023-24 AGAR period, were public rights in relation to the 2022-23 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 2022/23 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

29 APRIL 2024

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

PATRICK BARKER

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit



Date 29 APRIL 2024

*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).

Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2023/24 Form 2

To be completed by smaller authorities where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure did not exceed £25,000 in the year of account ended 31 March 2024, and that wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015

There is no requirement to have a limited assurance review or to submit an Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor, **provided** that the authority has certified itself as exempt at a meeting of the authority after 31 March 2024 and a completed Certificate of Exemption is submitted no later than **30 June 2024** notifying the external auditor.

LUSTLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

certifies that during the financial year 2023/24, the higher of the authority's total gross income for the year or total gross annual expenditure, for the year did not exceed **£25,000**

Total annual gross income for the authority 2023/24: £14,180

Total annual gross expenditure for the authority 2023/24: £15,420

There are certain circumstances in which an authority will be **unable to certify itself as exempt**, so that a limited assurance review will still be required. If an authority **is unable to confirm the statements below then it cannot certify itself as exempt** and it **must** submit the completed Annual Governance and Accountability Return Form 3 to the external auditor to undertake a limited assurance review for which a fee of **£210 +VAT** will be payable.

By signing this **Certificate of Exemption** you are confirming that:

- The authority was in existence on 1st April 2020
- In relation to the preceding financial year (2022/23), the external auditor **has not**:
 - issued a public interest report in respect of the authority or any entity connected with it
 - made a statutory recommendation to the authority, relating to the authority or any entity connected with it
 - issued an advisory notice under paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 8 to the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 ("the Act"), and has not withdrawn the notice
 - commenced judicial review proceedings under section 31(1) of the Act
 - made an application under section 28(1) of the Act for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful, and the application has not been withdrawn nor has the court refused to make the declaration
- The court has not declared an item of account unlawful after a person made an appeal under section 28(3) of the Act.

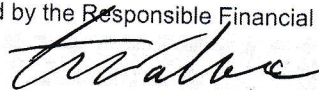
If the above statements apply and the authority neither received gross income, nor incurred gross expenditure, exceeding £25,000, then the Certificate of Exemption can be signed and a copy submitted to the external auditor **either** by email **or** by post (not both).

The Annual Internal Audit Report, Annual Governance Statement, Accounting Statements, an analysis of variances and the bank reconciliation plus the information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 including the period for the exercise of public rights still need to be fully completed and, along with a copy of this certificate, published on the authority website/webpage* before 1 July 2024.

Signing this certificate confirms the authority will comply with the publication requirements.

Signed by the Responsible Financial Officer

Date



09/05/2024

I confirm that this Certificate of Exemption was approved by this authority on this date:

09/05/2024

Signed by Chair

Date

as recorded in minute reference:

2024/25/2/9a

Generic email address of Authority

LUSTLEIGHPARISHCOUNCIL@HOTMAIL.COM

Telephone number

01647 277132

*Published web address

LUSTLEIGHPARISHCOUNCIL.COM

ONLY this Certificate of Exemption should be returned EITHER by email OR by post (not both) as soon as possible after certification to your external auditor, but no later than 30 June 2024. Reminder letters for late submission will incur a charge of £40 + VAT.

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2023/24

We acknowledge as the members of:

LUSTLEIGH 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 2024, that:

	Agreed		
	Yes	No	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	✓		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.	Yes	No	N/A
			✓

*For any statement to which the response is 'no', an explanation must be published

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

09/05/2024

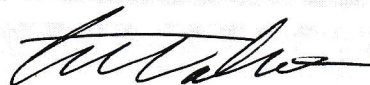
and recorded as minute reference:

2024/25/2/9a

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

Chair

Clerk



Information required by the Transparency Code (not part of the Annual Governance Statement)

The authority website/webpage is up to date and the information required by the Transparency Code has been published.	Yes	No

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Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2023/24 for

LUSTLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

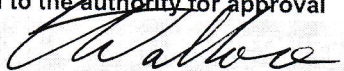
	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2023 £	31 March 2024 £	
1. Balances brought forward	23260	23741	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	10848	11775	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	5711	2405	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	5322	5569	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	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	10756	9851	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	23741	22501	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	23741	22501	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 plus long term investments and assets	63,507	26,099	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	0	0	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 2024 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

03/05/2024

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

09/05/2024

as recorded in minute reference:

2024/25/2/9a

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

Lustleigh Parish Council - Bank Reconciliation year ending 31 March 2024

GENERAL

Lloyds Bank A/c 01197216

Bal per bank statement as at 31 March 2024 £1,299.90
(no outstanding cheques)

FIXED TERM SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Lloyds A/c (matures 26.04.24)

Bal per bank statement as at 31 March 2024 £16,642.46

INSTANT ACCESS SAVINGS A/C

Lloyds A/c 75747668

Bal per bank statement as at 31 March 2024 £3,730.69

LUSTLEIGH FUND

Lloyds TSB A/c 02346916

Bal per bank statement as at 31 March 2024 £828.07

£22,501.12 Total **£22,501.12**

Total net bank balances as at 31 March 2024

£22,501.12

Prepared by:- Lis Wallace

Lis Wallace, Lustleigh Parish Clerk

Date 5th April 2024

SUMMARY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31.3.2024

audited

2022-23 RECEIPTS

10848.18	Precept	~
270.60	Sale of Lustleigh Guides	~
60.00	Rent - Land @ Wood Park	~
3228.91	Grants (Road Warden scheme)	~
68.23	Donations	~
409.89	VAT reclaimed	~
67.69	Sale of Mistletoe	~
140.00	Sale of Apples	~
200.00	Other - solicitor's refund re bus shelter lease	~
5.25	Interest on savings accounts	~
1260.00	Sale of Jubilee tickets	~

16558.75

LUSTLEIGH FUND

0.00 Donation from duck race

16558.75

unaudited

2023-24

11775.00	
223.60	
60.00	
0.00	
485.80	
1036.65	
0.00	
140.00	
82.00	
226.98	
0.00	
<u>£14,030.03</u>	

£14,030.03

150.00 £150.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS

£14,180.03

PAYMENTS

4266.36	Salary	~
1055.88	Clerk's PAYE	~
69.49	Office costs (Phone/Stationery/Stamps/Ink)	~
170.00	Clerk's office and phone allowance	~
13.00	Subscriptions	~
1560.92	Maintenance - Village Green/Orchard	~
1560.00	Tree felling	~
155.00	Grants (Christmas floodlights)	~
0.00	PAYE accounting fees	~
520.12	Training	~
0.00	Section 137 Payments (RBL Wreath)	~

4452.56

1116.13

81.32

110.00

277.17

1202.50

0.00

0.00

125.00

90.00

30.00

0.00 Audit	~	~	0.00
462.00 Hiring Premises	~	~	276.00
756.69 Insurance	~	~	773.64
0.00 Playground Equipment	~	~	5223.60
1030.00 Misc. - Bus shelter lease transfer fees	~	~	145.00
0.00 Election costs	~	~	290.10
4458.26 Purchases			974.75
16077.72	Total General a/c		<u>£15,167.77</u>

<u>LUSTLEIGH FUND</u>			
0.00 Contribution towards new bench (orchard)		253.00	<u>£253.00</u>

TOTAL PAYMENTS		<u>£15,420.77</u>
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LUSTLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

SUMMARY OF UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

Balance of all accounts b/f 01.04.23	23,753.00
plus receipts	£14,180.03
	<u>£37,922.00</u>
less payments	£ 15,420.77

Balances c/f 01.04.24	£ 22,501.23
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Funds held in the following Bank Accounts at 31st March 2024 :-

GENERAL

Lloyds 1197216

£1,299.90

no outstanding cheques

INSTANT ACCESS SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Lloyds 75747668

£3,730.69

FIXED TERM SAVINGS ACCOUNT (matures 26.04.24

Lloyds 20151609LS

£16,642.46

LUSTLEIGH FUND

Lloyds 02346916

£828.07

TOTAL

£22,501.12

.....
Lustleigh Parish Council Chairman

.....
Responsible Officer

.....
Date 9th May 2024

Lustleigh Parish Council - Annual return for the year ended 31 March 2024

Greater than 15% Variance explanation of key factors

RECEIPTS

	2022/23	2023/24
1. Sale of Lustleigh Guides - depends on number of visitors to village so not possible to control	270.6	223.6
2. Grants - non required, the previous year's grants were due to the jubilee celebrations	3228.91	0
3. Donations - 3 large donations unexpectedly received	68.23	485.8
4. VAT - more items purchased so more vat claimed. The cradle swings accounted for most of the vat.	408.89	1036.65
5. Other - previous years spend was due to the jubilee celebrations	200	82
6. Interest - new savings accounts opened to capitalise on high interest rates	5.25	226.98
7. Jubilee tickets - one off event	1260.00	0

PAYMENTS

	2022/23	2023/24
1. Office costs - additional postage costs (land registry docs)	69.49	81.32
2. Clerks office & phone allowance - overlooked claiming the phone allowance	170	110
3. Subscriptions - Wordpress subscriptions renew every 2 years and this was the second year	13	277.17
4. Maintenance - less required	1561	1202
5. Tree felling - non required	1560	0
6. Grants - Christmas floodlights faulty and so not used and grant not required	155	0
7. PAYE - previous year's invoice not received	0	90
8. Training - no road warden training required as certification still valid	520.12	90
9. Hiring premises - no jubilee event	462	276
10. Playground equipment - budgeted purchase of cradle swings	0	5223.6
11. Misc. - previous years' costs were due to the jubilee celebrations	1030	145
12. Election - not held in the previous year	0	290.1
13. Purchased - previous years costs were due to the jubilee celebrations	4458.26	974.75

LUSTLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL - Register of property and other assets at 31.03.24

Community Assets (valued at £1 per item)

ASSET DESCRIPTION	VALUE	LOCATION	INSURED VALUE
Orchard (4.2acres)	£1.00	TQ13 9TA	£10,000.00
Pethybridge Wood (4.5acres)	£1.00	TQ13 9TA	£5,000.00
Village Green	£1.00	TQ13 9TJ	£5,000.00
Land behind Wood Park	£1.00	TQ13 9TL	£1,400.00
War Memorial	£1.00	TQ13 9TL	£2,256.00
Sub Total	£5.00		

Gifted Assets (valued at £1 per item)

No.	ASSET DESCRIPTION	ACQUISITION DATE	PURCHASE PRICE	LOCATION	DEDICATION (where applicable)
2	Memorial bench	Not known	£2.00	Orchard	Brian Roach & David Ewart Jenkins
1	Memorial bench	February 2024	£1.00	Orchard	Raymond Powell
1	Memorial bench	May 2023	£1.00	Orchard	John Merriott
1	Picnic Bench	February 2024	£1.00	Orchard	Not applicable
1	Memorial bench	Not known	£1.00	Orchard play park	David Ewart Jenkins
1	Spring dog	Not known	£1.00	Orchard play park	Not applicable
1	Memorial bench	2012	£1.00	Weyland path	Adam James Patrick Riley
	Sub Total		£8.00		

Purchased Assets

No.	ASSET DESCRIPTION	ACQUISITION DATE	PURCHASE PRICE	LOCATION
	Street Furniture			
3	Notice Boards	Not known	£1,389.00	2 at village hall, 1 at Brookfield corner
4	Wooden Backless Benches	Not known	£200.00	Orchard
2	Picnic Benches	Not known	£236.00	Orchard
1	Recycled plastic bench	28/09/2023	£420.00	Orchard
4	Wood 3-seat Benches	Not known	£506.00	Orchard
1	Wood 3-seat Benches	Not known	£125.00	Orchard play park
	Gates & Fences	Various	£1,120.00	Orchard
1	Bus Shelter	Not known	£2,382.00	Casely corner
1	DAA Mast	July 2019	£2,250.00	Cricket Field
	<u>Play equipment</u>			

- Tractor	01/07/2016	£500.00	Orchard play park
- Spring chicken	02/08/2021	£1,420.00	Orchard play park
- Climbing frame	03/06/2019	£9,870.00	Orchard play park
- Swings	Pre 2008	Not known	Orchard play park
- Seesaw	02/11/2009	£560.00	Orchard play park
<u>Other equipment</u>			
1 - Filing Cabinet	Pre 2008	£105.00	Old Vestry
1 - Hammer Drill	19/07/2022	£194.00	Rudge
Sub Total		£21,277.00	

CHANGES DURING FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024

a.	Assets purchased			LOCATION
	Cradle swings	15/12/2023	£4,353.00	Play area
b.	Assets written off			
	Metal bench		-£118.00	

STOCK AS AT 01.04.24

478 Lustleigh Village Guides (V3)	18/10/2023	£574.00	LOCATION Elilmore Farm
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DEBT		£0.00	
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TOTAL **£26,099.00** (restated)

SECTION 137 PAYMENTS **£30.00** (RBL Wreath)

..... Council Chairman Financial Officer Date:

**NOTE: In previous years both community and gifted assets were valued incorrectly.
This has now been rectified and the value restated.**