# Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Smaller Authorities in England Annual return for the year ended 31 March 2017

Every smaller authority in England with an annual turnover of £6.5 million or less must complete an annual return at the end of each financial year in accordance with proper practices summarising its activities. In this annual return the term 'smaller authority'\* includes a Parish Meeting, a Parish Council, a Town Council and an Internal Drainage Board.

### The annual return on pages 2 to 4 is made up of three sections:

- Sections 1 and 2 are completed by the smaller authority. Smaller authorities must approve
   Section 1 before Section 2.
- Section 3 is completed by the external auditor.

In addition, the internal audit report is completed by the smaller authority's internal audit provider.

Each smaller authority must approve Section 1 and Section 2 in order and in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

#### Completing your annual return

Guidance notes, including a completion checklist, are provided on page 6 and at relevant points in the annual return.

Complete all highlighted sections. Do not leave any highlighted box blank. Incomplete or incorrect returns require additional external auditor work and may incur additional costs.

Send the annual return, together with the bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2017, an explanation of any significant year on year variances in the accounting statements, **your notification of the commencement date of the period for the exercise of public rights** and any additional information requested, to your external auditor by the due date.

Your external auditor will ask for any additional documents needed for their work. Unless requested, do not send any original financial records to the external auditor.

Once the external auditor has completed their work, certified annual returns will be returned to the smaller authority for publication and public display of Sections 1, 2 and 3. You must publish and display the annual return, including the external auditor's report, by 30 September 2017.

It should not be necessary for you to contact the external auditor for guidance.

More guidance on completing this annual return is available in the Practitioners' Guide that can be downloaded from www.nalc.gov.uk or from www.slcc.co.uk or from www.ada.org.uk

\*for a complete list of bodies that may be smaller authorities refer to schedule 2 to Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

## Section 1 – Annual governance statement 2016/17

We acknowledge as the me	mbers of:			
Enter name of smaller authority here:	GAMLINGAY	PARISH	COUNCIL	r

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 2017, that:

AL.		A	greed		'Yes'
		Yes	No	)*	means that this smaller authority:
1.	We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	V			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.	V		8	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.		,		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 smaller authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	V			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.	/			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 smaller authority and, where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements.	V			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	NA	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 on:

and recorded as minute reference:

smaller authority here:

31 а. Signed by Chair at meeting where approval is given:

Clerk:

\*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 2016/17 for

Enter name of smaller authority here:

GAMLINDAY PARISH COUNCIL

	HE THE RESERVE	Year e	ending	Notes and guidance
		31 March 2016 £	31 March 2017 £	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	1033196	217297	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	177143	186700	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs, rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3.	(+) Total other receipts	536676	144464	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	97/92	99 230	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	24607	24607	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the smaller authority's borrowings (if any).
6.	(-) All other payments	1407919	187798	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	217297	236826	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	226631	225486	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	398704	398 704	This cell shows the value of all the property the authority owns. It is made up of its fixed assets and long-term investments.
10	. Total borrowings	309629	300297	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.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2017 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 R	esponsible Einancial Officer:
	Bers
Date	13/06/2017

	13/06/2017	
and recorded	as minute reference:	
II .	31 ii b.	
Signed by Ch	air at meeting where approval is	given:

Section 3 – External auditor report and certificate In respect of: GAMLINGAY PARISH COUNCIL Enter name of smaller authority here: 1. 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 2017; 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. 2. 2016/17 External auditor report (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 other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislative 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 smaller authority: (continue on a separate sheet if required) 3. 2016/17 External auditor certificate We certify/do not 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 2017. \* We do not certify completion because: External auditor signature

Date

Note: The NAO issued guidance applicable to external auditors' work on 2016/17 accounts in Auditor Guidance Note AGN/02. The

External auditor name

## Annual internal audit report 2016/17 to

smaller authority here:	GAMLIN	0799	PARISH	COUNCIL	L .		9
Γhis smaller authority's ir risk, carried out a selectiv expected to be in operati	e assessment of	complia	nce with rele	evant proced	ures ar	asses id con	sment of trols
nternal audit has been coverage. On the basis of summarised in this table. Internal audit conclusions achieved throughout the smaller authority.	of the findings in th . Set out below are s on whether, in al	e areas the obj I signific	examined, fectives of in eant respects	the internal a iternal contro s, the control	nudit co ol and a objecti	nclusi Ilongsi ives w	ons are ide are the ere being
Internal control objective						? Please the follow	e choose only wing
					Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting reco	rds have been kept prop	erly throug	hout the year.		V		ys S
B. This smaller authority met its expenditure was approved a	s financial regulations, pa and VAT was appropriate	yments we ly accounte	ere supported by ed for.	invoices, all	N		
C. This smaller authority asses adequacy of arrangements t		o achieving	g its objectives a	nd reviewed the	V		
D. The precept or rates require against the budget was regu	ment resulted from an ad larly monitored; and rese	lequate bu erves were	dgetary process; appropriate.	; progress	V		
E. Expected income was fully r banked; and VAT was appro		ot prices, p	roperly recorded	and promptly	/		
F. Petty cash payments were papproved and VAT appropris		eipts, all p	etty cash expend	liture was	~		
G. Salaries to employees and a authority's approvals, and P.	allowances to members v AYE and NI requirement	vere paid ir s were pro	n accordance wit perly applied.	h this smaller			9
H. Asset and investments regis	sters were complete and	accurate a	nd properly main	ntained.	~		
I. Periodic and year-end bank	account reconciliations	were prope	rly carried out.		/		
Accounting statements prep (receipts and payments or in adequate audit trail from uno properly recorded.	ncome and expenditure),	agreed to	the cash book, s	supported by an	/		
K. (For local councils only)							Not
Trust funds (including chari	table) – The council met	its respons	ibilities as a trus	tee.	Yes	No	applicable
For any other risk areas identified sheets if needed)	by this smaller authority	adequate	controls existed	(list any other ris	k areas be	low or o	n separate
							10
Name of person who carried ou	t the internal audit $$	RUCE	HUET	Ť .			
Signature of person who carried	I out the internal audit	knie	ether	<u> </u>	Date 0	3/05	12017
*If the response is 'no' please s' (add separate sheets if needed' **Note: If the response is 'not co next planned, or, if coverage is	). overed' please state whe	n the most	recent internal a	audit work was do	one in this	area an	

## Guidance notes on completing the 2016/17 annual return,

- 1. You must apply proper practices for preparing this annual return. Proper practices are found in the Practitioners' Guide\* which is updated from time to time and contains everything you should need to prepare successfully for your financial year-end and the subsequent work by the auditor. NALC, SLCC and ADA have helplines if you want to talk through any problem you encounter.
- 2. Make sure that your annual return is complete (i.e. no empty highlighted boxes), and is properly signed and dated. Avoid making amendments to the completed return. Any amendments must be approved by the smaller authority, properly initialled and explanation provided. Annual returns containing unexplained or unapproved amendments may be returned and incur additional costs.
- 3. Smaller authorities must approve Section 1 on page 2 before approving Section 2 on page 3.
- 4. Use the checklist provided below. Use a second pair of eyes, perhaps a Councillor or Board Member, to review the annual return for completeness and accuracy before sending it to the external auditor.
- Do not send the external auditor any information not specifically asked for. Doing so is not helpful.
   However, you must tell the external auditor about any change of Clerk, Responsible Finance Officer
   or Chair.
- 6. Make sure that the copy of the bank reconciliation which you send to your external auditor with the annual return covers all your bank accounts. If your smaller authority holds any short-term investments, note their value on the bank reconciliation. The external auditor must be able to agree your bank reconciliation to Box 8 on the accounting statements (Section 2 on page 3). You must provide an explanation for any difference between Box 7 and Box 8. More help on bank reconciliation is available in the Practitioners' Guide\*.
- 7. Explain fully significant variances in the accounting statements on page 3. Do not just send in a copy of your detailed accounting records instead of this explanation. The external auditor wants to know that you understand the reasons for all variances. Include a complete numerical and narrative analysis to support your explanation. There are a number of examples provided in the Practitioners' Guide\* to assist you.
- 8. If the external auditor has to review unsolicited information, or receives an incomplete bank reconciliation, or you do not fully explain variances, this may incur additional costs for which the auditor will make a charge.
- You must inform the external auditor of the date set for the commencement of the period for the exercise of public rights.
- 10. Make sure that your accounting statements add up and the balance carried forward from the previous year (Box 7 of 2016) equals the balance brought forward in the current year (Box 1 of 2017).
- 11. Do not complete Section 3 which is reserved for the external auditor.

Completion checklist -	· 'No' answers mean you may not have met requirements	Done?
All sections	All highlighted boxes have been completed?	
	All additional information requested, including the dates set for the period for the exercise of public rights, has been provided for the external auditor?	V
Section 1	For any statement to which the response is 'no', an explanation is provided?	1
Section 2	Smaller authority approval of the accounting statements is confirmed by the signature of the Chair of the approval meeting?	V
*	An explanation of significant variations from last year to this year is provided?	1
	Bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2017 agreed to Box 8?	1
	An explanation of any difference between Box 7 and Box 8 is provided?	1
Sections 1 and 2	Trust funds – all disclosures made if a Council is a sole managing trustee? NB: Do not send trust accounting statements unless requested.	
Internal Audit report	All highlighted boxes completed by internal audit and explanations provided?	-

\*Note: The Practitioners' Guide is available from your local NALC, SLCC or ADA representatives or from www.nalc.gov.uk or www.slcc.co.uk or www.ada.org.uk.

### Bank reconciliation - pro forma

#### **Gamlingay Parish Council**

Financial year ending 31 March 2017

Prepared by LBACON ChERIC / RFO. (Name and role)

Date 31.5.17

Balance per bank statements as at 31 March 2017:

£

£ 227 372 . 49

209.34

Petty cash float (if applicable)

Less: any unpresented cheques at 31 March 2017

2545.46

Add: any un-banked cash at 31 March 2017

450-35

Net balances as at 31 March 2017 (Box 8)

225 486.72

The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows:

#### CASH BOOK:

Opening Balance 1 April 2016 (Prior year Box 8)

226631.03

Add: Receipts in the year

326 933. 6 6

Less: Payments in the year

328 077.91

Closing balance per cash book [receipts and payments book] as at 31 March 2017 (must equal net balances above – Box 8)

225486.72.

## Explanation of variances - pro forma

### **Gamlingay Parish Council**

The '*Practitioners*' *Guide*' provides guidance on explaining significant variances. **Please provide** <u>full</u> <u>explanations, including numerical values</u>, for the following:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept value (Box 2).

Section 2	2015/16 £	2016/17 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
Box 2 Precept or Rates and Levies	t.				
Box 3 Total other receipts	53 6,676	144464	392212	73	SIDE monies recieved 15716  £ 338,376  VAT refinds on expenditure MARCH-MAY £ 25020045  50 125
Box 4 Staff costs					
Box 5 Loan interest/ capital repayments					
Box 6 All other payments	1407,919	187,798	1220121	86.	Projects: - Extension/improvement to Community Centre (H  £890,839  Support to Community Centre £15345  New Cemetery & 98870  Community Buildings & 42571  Playgram at £ 68528
Box 9 Total fixed assets & long term investments & assets		8			Shrethighing to 12068 Speedwater equipment to 3150 Economic development project \$62000 Park to 4244. Hishway is to 9670
Box 10 Total borrowings					
Explanation for 'high' reserves	Box 7 is mo	l ore than twice	 e Box 2 beca	use	



## Reconciliation between Box 7 and Box 8 in Section 2 - pro forma

(applies to Annual Returns prepared on an income and expenditure basis only)

### **Gamlingay Parish Council**

There should only be a difference between Box 7 and Box 8 where the Annual Return has been prepared on an income and expenditure basis and there have been adjustments for debtors/prepayments and creditors/receipts in advance at the year end. Please provide details of the year end adjustments, showing how the net difference between them is equal to the difference between Boxes 7 and 8.

Box 7: Balances carried	forward	£	£ 236 826.44
Deduct:	Debtors		
		12000.47	
Deduct:	Payments made in adv (prepayments) •	/ance	
		1482.00	
Total deductions			13482.47
Add:	Creditors  • • •		
		6.	
Add:	Receipts in advance  •	2142.75	
Total additions		2142-75	2142.75
Box 8: Total cash and s	nort term investments		225486.72.

	INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2016/2017	
2015/16		
£1,026,560.49	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	£226,631.03
£714,297.58	ADD TOTAL RECEIPTS	£326,933.60
£1,514,227.04	LESS TOTAL PAYMENTS	£328,077.91
£226,631.03	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD (BOX 8)	£225,486.72
	BANK RECONCILIATION	
31.3.2016	D, INT, ILEGO, TOLIN, TOLIN	31.3.2017
£184,255.13	CO OP CURRENT ACCOUNT	£227,372.49
£108,563.75	SANTANDER CURRENT ACCOUNT	£0.00
£744.98	UNITY TRUST CURRENT ACCOUNT	£0.00
£0.00	BOND	£0.00
£513.50	CASH IN HAND	£659.69
£67,446.33	OUTSTANDING DEBITS (INCLUDES MARCH GRASSCUTTING INVOICE)	£2,545.46
£226,631.03	(BOX 8)	£225,486.72
	BALANCE SHEET	
San	ASSETS	C12 402 47
£9,252.02	DEBTORS	£13,482.47
£226,631.03	CASH IN HAND	£225,486.72
£235,883.05	HARMITIES	£238,969.19
120 20	LIABILITIES	£0.00
£0.00	CREDITORS	
£18,586.11	ACCRUALS	£2,142.75
£217,296.94	ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES (BOX 7)	£236,826.44
	NET ASSETS	
	REPRESENTED BY	
£277,636.05	GENERAL FUND BROUGHT FORWARD (BOX 1)	£217,296.94
£713,818.71	ADD TOTAL INCOME (BOX 2 + 3)	£331,164.05
£1,529,718.03	LESS TOTAL EXPENDITURE (BOX 4 + 5 +6)	£311,634.55
£217,296.94	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD (BOX 7)	£236,826.44
	THE ABOVE STATEMENT REPRESENTS FAIRLY THE FINANCIAL	
	POSITION OF GAMLINGAY PARISH COUNCIL AS AT 31.3.2017	
	AND REFLECTS ITS INCOME AND EXPENDITURE DURING THE YEAR	
	APPROVED BY COUNCIL - DATE 13.6.17	Carlo Stongs
	MINUTE REFERENCE 31 11	ne forest size
	SIGNED CHAIRMAN J. J. M. Jeachy	
	SIGNED RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER	piddines - 100 de la

	AGENCY WORK	
	VERGE CUTTING FOR COUNTY COUNCIL	
£2,776.02	COST TO PARISH COUNCIL	£2,776.02
£589.31	CONTRIBUTION FROM COUNTY COUNCIL	£598.31
	ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY	
£0.00	ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ADVERT	£51.00
	PENSIONS	
£18,861.67	PARISH COUNCIL CONTRIBUTIONS	£18,672.57
31.00%	EMPLOYER PERCENTAGE	31.8%
The state of the	LOANS OUTSTANDING	
£309,629.95	PWLB ECO HUB 25YRS FROM 26.11.10@4.97%	£300,297.30
£309,629.95	TOTAL	£300,297.30
	LEASES TO PARISH COUNCIL	
	MERTON FIELD FROM MERTON COLLEGE OXFORD 10YRS FROM 2011	
	LEASES FROM PARISH COUNCIL	
	ECO HUB 50 YRS FROM FEB 2011 (PEPPERCORN RENT)	
£0,00	BORROWINGS	£0.00

	CAPITAL/EARMARKED RESERVES	
£11,500.00	ECO HUB	£5,000.00
£8,285.00	CLOSED CHURCHYARDS	£9,885.00
£9,821.00	METHODIST CHAPEL SINKING FUND	£11,821.00
£12,300.00	WI HALL SINKING FUND	£14,300.00
£23,136.00	OPEN SPACE MAINTENANCE	£5,136.00
,	PLAYGROUND	£17,500.00
	OFFICE EQUIPMENT	£2,000.00
	XMAS LIGHTS	£500.00
	COMMUNITY BUILDINGS GENERAL S106	£8,004.92
	COMMUNITY TRANSPORT	£77,934.78
£65,042.00	TOTAL	£152,081.70
الرزار أندانها بسناداتها	CARRIED FORWARD FUNDS	
£5,000.00	CHURCHYARD PATHS	£5,000.00
£51,455.00	PROJECT FUNDS	£12,334.00
£56,455.00	TOTAL	£17,334.00
	S137 PAYMENTS	
£7.36	SPENDING LIMIT PER ELECTOR (2790)	£7.42
£20,534.40	AMOUNT ALLOWED	£20,701.80
£1,698.00	TOTAL SPENT	£500.00
	MAIN BENEFICIARIES	
£130.00	GAMLINGAY ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION GROUP	£0.00
£0.00	AUTISM BEDFORDSHIRE	£100.00
£250.00	GAMLINGAY ARCHEOLOGY GROUP	£0.00
£50.00	WILDLIFE TRUST	£0.00
£440.00	AIR AMBULANCE	£0.00
£0,00	CAMBRIDGESHIRE HEARING HELP	£100.00
£250.00	ACT	£0.00
£100.00	FIRE FIGHTERS CHARITY	£0.00
£100.00	MAGPAS	£0.00
£0.00	KEECH HOSPICE	£250.00

	CREDITORS	
£0.00	None	£0.00
	ACCRUALS	
£18,586.11	RETENTIONS	£2,142.75
	TOTAL	£2,142.75
	DEBTORS	
£2,884.00	SUNSHINE PRE SCHOOL	£7,144.20
£172.80	GARDENING CLUB	£0.00
£0.00	RECREATION FIELD INCOME	£439.65
£43.20	FORWARD GAMLINGAY!	£0.00
£79.20	RAINBOWS	£0.00
£1,400.00	WILDLIFE TRUST	£0.00
£4,579.20	TOTAL	£7,583.85
£4,672.82	VAT RECOVERABLE	£4,416.62
£9,252.02	TOTAL	£12,000.47
	PREPAYMENTS	
£0.00	SCDC waste to 31.3.18	£1,482.00
	ASSET REGISTER	LINE WELL PIL
£66,649.33	ASSETS PURCHASED/ACQUIRED (INCLUDED BELOW)	£0.00
	PROPERTY/LAND HOLDING	
£30,000.00	ECO HUB/GARAGES	£30,000.00
£72,000.00	METHODIST CHAPEL	£72,000.00
£0.00	WI HALL	£0.00
£0.00	CEMETERY SHED	£0.00
£1.00	ALLOTMENTS	£1.00
£1.00	NORTHFIELD CLOSE PLAY AREA	£1.00
£1.00	THE PITT	£1.00
£1.00	CINQUES COMMON	£1.00
£1.00	RECREATION AREAS	£1.00
£0.00	CHURCHYARD WALL	£0.00
£102,005.00	TOTAL BUILDINGS	£102,005.00
£13,009.33	CONTENTS	£13,009.33
£283,690.00	ADDITIONAL ITEMS	£283,690.00