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Internal Audit Report for Bainton and Ashton Parish Council, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024

-to be read in conjunction with the Internal Audit Report section of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for year ending March 2024.

To the Chairman of Bainton & Ashton Council

I recently carried out an Internal Audit of the Governance and financial activities of Bainton and Ashton Parish Council. I referred to proper practices in the Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England (2020), plus the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance -Practitioners Guide (2023)

Initially, I examined the minutes and policies available on the website, which is up to date. I then carried out a Zoom meeting with the Clerk/RFO Jenny Rice and thank her for time and assistance in providing me with all the information I requested.

I am pleased to inform you that I was satisfied that all relevant objectives have been satisfied and I am happy to sign off the Internal Report on the AGAR.

My general recommendations from last year were improving clarity for payments to be made and those pre-approved and I am pleased to say this is now clearer.

Yours sincerely,

*Internal audit is the periodic independent review of a council's internal controls resulting in an assurance report designed to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities and operating procedures under the council's control. It would be incorrect to view internal audit as the detailed inspection of all records and transactions of a council in order to detect error or fraud. This report is based on the evidence made available to me and consequently the report is limited to those matters set out above*