

BARNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

INTERNAL CONTROL REPORT

The Accounts & Audit (England) Regulations 2015 aims to strengthen governance and accountability through requirements related to internal control and internal audit.

Whilst the Parish Council has reviewed the effectiveness of the internal audit (independence, competence, proportionate and scope), it has a requirement levied on it to ensure that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control: -

‘The regulations require active participation by members in providing positive assurance to the electors of their stewardship of public money. The framework of accountability is risk-based i.e. level of control and management must be appropriate to the risk involved. The Council must determine the most appropriate method of internal control. Care should be taken to ensure that internal control tests are proportionate and relevant and that they are neither seen as, nor intended as, undue interference in the RFO’s day to day management of financial affairs.’

As part of its internal control, the Parish Council has appointed a Councillor to conduct a review of the system of internal control via the following tests on a yearly basis with a written report of any findings to be submitted to the Council and minuted as received.


CONTROL TEST	TEST DONE	COMMENTS – check documents and initial
Ensuring an up to date Register of Assets	✓	
Regular maintenance arrangement for physical assets	✓	
Annual review of risk and the adequacy of Insurance cover	✓	
Annual review of financial risk	✓	
Awareness of Standing Orders and Financial regulations	✓	
Adoption of Financial and Standing Orders	✓	
Regular review of contracts (where appropriate)	✓	
Regular bank reconciliation, independently reviewed	✓	
Regular scrutiny of financial records and proper arrangements for the approval of expenditure	✓	
Recording in the minutes the specific powers under which non-standard expenditure is approved.	✓	

Payments supported by invoices, authorised and minuted.	✓	
Regular scrutiny of income records to ensure income is correctly received, recorded and banked	✓	
Scrutiny to ensure precept recorded in the cashbook agrees to District Council notification	✓	
Contracts of employment for staff		
Contract annually reviewed		
Updating records to record changes in relevant legislation		
PAYE/NIC properly operated by the Council as an employer	✓	
VAT correctly accounted for VAT payments identified, recorded and reclaimed in the cash-book	✓	
Regular financial reporting to Parish Council	✓	
Regular budget monitoring statements as reported to Parish Council	✓	
Compliance with Local Transparency Code Of 2014: Items of expenditure incurred over £100	✓	
Verifying that the Council is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation requirements Are the following in place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit / Impact Assessment • Privacy Notices • Procedures for dealing with Subject Access Requests • Procedure for dealing with Data breaches • Data Retention & Disposal Policies 	✓	
Minutes properly numbered and paginated with a master copy kept in for safe-keeping	✓	

Procedures in place for recording and monitoring Members' Interests and Gifts of Hospitality	✓	
Adoption of Codes of Conduct for Members	✓	
Declaration of Acceptance of Office	✓	

Date of review of system of Internal Controls..... 9/2/2026

Review of system of Internal Controls carried out by: JANICE CHALMERS

Name..... Janice Chalmers..... Signature..... 

Report submitted to Council (date)..... 9/2/26 4/3/2026

(minute reference) 10.3 March 2026

Next review of system of Internal Controls due..... TBC before 31 March 2027

Additional comments by reviewer: