## STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL INDEPENDENT INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

I have carried out an Internal Audit of the Council's books and records in accordance with the Council's requirements and planned coverage under the guidelines of Governance and Accountability for Local Councils. My Internal Audit and this Report are undertaken in order to assist the Parish Council in completing the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2022/2023 and it is not a replacement for the External Audit. This work has been carried out on a sample basis to provide an assessment of compliance with the relevant policy and controls that are expected to be in operation during the above financial year. Where areas of concern are encountered additional work is undertaken to ascertain the extent of the problem and to form an opinion as to the effect on Council finances. Advice can then be given to correct the situation and the Council can then agree further controls where necessary to ensure future compliance with regulations. My audit has covered the work carried out by the Parish Clerk ensuring that all relevant regulations have been met and the Council's resolutions have been carried out in a proper, timely and correct manner.

## Annual Governance and Accountability Return Annual Internal Audit Report

I have had to make a "No" response to part C as there is no indication in the Minutes that the Risk Assessment was reviewed by the Parish Council during the year. This is an important document which guides the Council should any problems arise and should be looked at annually to ensure that all risks are recognised and appropriate actions are agreed. It would be good practice for the Council to use the Annual Meeting to review the Risk Assessment together with the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders.

The "Not Covered" response to part F in relation to Petty Cash is because the Parish Council does not use Petty Cash.

I have indicated "Not Covered" to part K as this does not apply to this Parish Council.

Continued.

## STRETTON PARISH COUNCIL INDEPENDENT INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Subject to action on the aforementioned NO response on the Internal Audit section of the AGAR and following my review of the files and other media provided to me I conclude that the system of internal control in place for Stretton Parish Council during 2022/2023 was functioning in a reasonable manner.

J S Marriott

Accountant

214 North Wingfield Road

Grassmoor

Chesterfield

Derbyshire

S42 5ED

21<sup>st</sup> April 2023