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# **Seend Parish Council**

*Internal Audit Report 2016-17*

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## **Background**

All town and parish councils are required by statute to make arrangements for an independent internal audit examination of their accounting records and system of internal control and for the conclusions to be reported each year in the Annual Return. Auditing Solutions Ltd has provided this service the Council since the outset of the "Limited assurance" audit arrangements.

## **Internal Audit Approach**

In undertaking the review for the year, we have again had regard to the materiality of transactions and their susceptibility to potential misrecording or misrepresentation in the year-end Statement of Accounts/Annual Return. Our programme of cover has been designed to afford appropriate assurance that the Council's financial systems remain robust and operate in a manner to ensure effective probity of transactions and to afford a reasonable probability of identifying any material errors or possible abuse of the Council's own and the national statutory regulatory framework. The programme is also designed to facilitate our completion of the 'Internal Audit Report' in the Council's Annual Return, which requires independent assurance over a number of internal control objectives.

## **Overall Conclusion**

We have concluded that, on the basis of the satisfactory conclusion of our annual programme of work, the Council has again maintained adequate and effective internal control arrangements, with no significant issues identified, although we have identified a few areas where we consider controls could be further improved: detail of these is set out in the body of the report with resultant recommendations further summarised on the appended Action Plan.

Consequently, we have completed and signed the 'Internal Audit Report' in the year's Annual Return, having concluded that, in all significant respects the control objectives set out in the Report have been achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of the Council.

