

CURRY MALLET PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2017/2018

The Transparency Code for 'Smaller Authorities' (annual turnover < £25,000pa), per section 38 of the Local Audit & Accountability Act 2014 and earlier legislation, stipulates that information relating to town & parish council's financial transactions over the past year be displayed on a local public website, by way of providing electors and council-tax payers with information through which to increase democratic accountability and the means to hold local public bodies to account.

Effective from 2017/2018, a new audit regime has been introduced whereby those Smaller Councils which meet certain criteria can certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review, under section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, thereby obviating the need for submitting their Annual Governance and Accountability Returns to the external auditor for scrutiny.

As hitherto, local councils are required to facilitate the exercise of public rights, so that electors and council tax payers can inspect the accounting records for the previous financial year.

The Curry Mallet Village Website www.currymallet.org, in compliance with the Transparency Code and the Annual Governance & Accountability Return, now incorporates the following information on its 'Parish Council' page.

- The Schedule of Receipts & Payments for 2017/2018 (v4/6), with explanatory Notes, and the bank reconciliation as at March 31st 2018, as approved at the council's meeting held on May 14th 2018
- A listing of each item of expenditure exceeding £100.00
- A comparison of budget vs. actual expenditure for 2017/2018, with explanation of variances
- The Internal Audit Report, as undertaken by Mr S Altria, to which the Council has given due consideration and has replied with observations and clarifications
- The Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2017/2018
 - Section 1, Annual Governance Statement, as approved at the Council's June 11th meeting
 - Section 2, Accounting Statements, as approved at the Council's June 11th meeting
 - Annual Internal Audit Schedule
- Explanation of variances for 2017/2018 vs. 2016/2017, itemising those elements of income or expenditure for which the variance, being > £200, was more than 15%. As the Council holds neither public land nor building assets, this has been omitted from the comparison
- The external auditor's sheet setting out the dates (June 25th to August 3rd inclusive) when the Council's financial records will be made available for public inspection

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