

(NAME): SOUTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Notice of conclusion of the audit and right to inspect the Annual Return
Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2012

Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998

Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 (SI 2011/817)

<p>1. The audit of accounts for the Council/Meeting (a) for the year ended 31 March 2012 has been concluded.</p> <p>2. The Annual Return is available for inspection by any local government elector of the area of the Council Meeting (a) on application to:</p> <p>(b) <u>C. PHILLIPS, PARISH CLERK</u> <u>VALLEY FARM, LOW COMMON,</u> <u>SOUTH LOPHAM</u> <u>IP22 2JT</u></p> <p>3. Copies will be provided to any local government elector on payment of £<u>2</u> (c) for each copy of the Annual Return.</p> <p>Announcement made by: (d) <u>C. PHILLIPS - CLERK</u></p> <p>Date of announcement: (e) <u>29th August 2012</u></p>	<p>Notes</p> <p>(a) Delete as appropriate</p> <p>(b) Insert name, position and address of the person to whom local government electors should apply to inspect the Annual Return</p> <p>(c) Insert a reasonable sum for copying costs</p> <p>(d) Insert name and position of person placing the notice</p> <p>(e) Insert date of placing of the notice</p>
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Section 1 – Accounting statements for

SOUTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Readers should note that throughout this annual return references to a 'local council' or 'council' also relate to a parish meeting.

	Year ending		Notes and guidance		
	31 March 2011 £	31 March 2012 £			
1 Balances brought forward	3,302.14	3,098.89	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.		
2 (+) Annual precept	2,500.00	2,500.00	Total amount of precept received or receivable in the year.		
3 (+) Total other receipts	107.96	42.14	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept received (line 2). Include any grants received here.		
4 (-) Staff costs	981.46	1,000.00	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.		
5 (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the council's borrowings (if any).		
6 (-) All other payments	1,829.75	2,469.46	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).		
7 (=) Balances carried forward	3,098.89	3,171.57	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) – (4+5+6)		
8 Total cash and short term investments	3,098.89	2,493.57	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – to agree with bank reconciliation.		
9 Total fixed assets and long term assets	14,804.00	14,804.00	The recorded book value at 31 March of all fixed assets owned by the council and any other long term assets e.g. loans to third parties and any long term investments.		
10 Total borrowings	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).		
11 Trust funds (including charitable) disclosure note	YES	NO	YES	NO	Disclosure Note: The council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing trust funds or assets. (Readers should note that the figures above do not include any trust transactions.)

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2012 the accounting statements in this annual return present fairly the financial position of the council and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer

SL SANEMUND
Date 25/05/2012

I confirm that these accounting statements were approved by the council on this date:

10 MAY 2012

and recorded as minute reference:

SLPC 100512.09

Signed by Chair of the meeting approving these accounting statements.

R.S. mean

Date 24/5/12

Section 2 – Annual governance statement

We acknowledge as the members of:

SOUTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2012, that:

	Agreed –		Yes means that the council:
	Yes	No	
1 We approved the accounting statements prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices.	✓		prepared its accounting statements in the way prescribed by law.
2 We maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3 We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the council to conduct its business or on its finances.	✓		has only done things that it has the legal power to do and has conformed to codes of practice and standards in the way it has done so.
4 We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		during the year has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about the council's accounts.
5 We carried out an assessment of the risks facing the council and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		considered the financial and other risks it faces and has dealt with them properly.
6 We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the council accounting records and control systems.	✓		arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of the council.
7 We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8 We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on the council and, where appropriate have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.
9 Trust funds (including charitable) – in our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	YES	NO	NA
	✓		has met all of its responsibilities where it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

This annual governance statement is approved by the council and recorded as minute reference

SLPC100512.09

dated 10/05/2012

Signed by:

Chair

dated

Signed by:

Clerk

dated

***Note:** Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response. Describe how the council will address the weaknesses identified.

Section 3 – External auditor's certificate and opinion

Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2012 of

SOUTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Respective responsibilities of the council and the auditor

The council is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The council prepares an annual return in accordance with proper practices which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2012; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are important to our audit responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit in accordance with guidance issued by the Audit Commission and, on the basis of our review of the annual return and supporting information, to report whether any matters that come to our attention give cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

External auditor's report

On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the council:

1. Section 1, Box 8 should be amended to £2,172, to deduct the value of unpresented cheques at 31 March 2012 (£322). Please note: unpresented cheques should not be confused with creditors, which are not relevant for a council whose accounts are prepared on a cash basis – for further information, refer to the Practitioners' Guide.
2. All figures in Section 1 should be rounded to the nearest £1, in accordance with the guidance in the Annual Return.

External auditor's signature:

Mazars LLP

External auditor's name:

Mazars LLP, Southampton, SO15 2BE

Date:

21 AUGUST 2012

Note: The auditor signing this page has been appointed by the Audit Commission and is reporting to you that they have carried out and completed all the work that is required of them by law. For further information please refer to the Audit Commission's publication entitled *Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and of Audited Small Bodies*.