

(NAME): STONY STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Notice of conclusion of the audit and right to inspect the Annual Return
Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2011

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 2011 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>CHARLES BRINDLEY, CLERK TO THE COUNCIL</u> <u>% THE LIBRARY</u> <u>5-7 CHURCH ST</u> <u>STONY STRATFORD, MK11 1BD</u></p> <p>between the hours of (c) <u>10.00</u> and (c) <u>15.00</u> on Mondays to Fridays (excluding public holidays), when any local government elector may make copies of the Annual Return</p> <p>3. Copies will be provided to any local government elector on payment of £<u>0.10</u>(d) for each copy of the Annual Return.</p> <p>Announcement made by: (e) <u>CHARLES BRINDLEY, CLERK</u></p> <p>Date of announcement: (f) <u>27. 9. 2011</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 the times between which a local government elector may apply to inspect the Annual Return</p> <p>(d) Insert a reasonable sum for copying costs</p> <p>(e) Insert name and position of person placing the notice</p> <p>(f) Insert date of placing of the notice</p>
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Section 1 – Accounting statements for

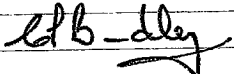
STONY STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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 2010 £	31 March 2011 £	
1 Balances brought forward	62747	62694	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	123511	127636	Total amount of precept received or receivable in the year.
3 (+) Total other receipts	64357	187301	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept received (line 2). Include any grants received here.
4 (-) Staff costs	36951	36299	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	150970	228559	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	62694	112773	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	64407	101946	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	66275	59176	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	35475	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11 Trust funds (including charitable) disclosure note	No	No	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 2011 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

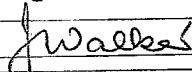


Date

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

and recorded as minute reference:

Signed by Chair of the meeting approving these accounting statements.

*  *

Date

Section 2 – Annual governance statement

We acknowledge as the members of STONY STRATFORD TOWN 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 2011, that:

	Agreed – Yes or No*	'Yes' means that the council:
1 We have approved the accounting statements prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices.	Yes	prepared its accounting statements in the way prescribed by law.
2 We have maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	Yes	made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3 We have taken 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.	Yes	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 have provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	Yes	during the year has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about the council's accounts.
5 We have carried out an assessment of the risks facing the council and taken appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	Yes	considered the financial and other risks it faces and has dealt with them properly.
6 We have maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the council accounting records and control systems.	Yes	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 have taken appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	Yes	responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8 We have 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.	Yes	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 have discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	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 body and recorded as minute reference

11/102
dated 21/06/2011

Signed by:

Chair * [Signature] *
dated 21/06/2011

Signed by:

Clerk [Signature]
dated 21/06/2011

***Note:** Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response that has been given; and describe what action is being taken to 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 2011 of

STONY STRATFORD TOWN 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 2011; 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 contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission’s requirements 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. The Annual Return should be fully and accurately completed before submission for audit - Box 10 should have been £35,500.

External auditor’s signature:

Mazars LLP

External auditor’s name:

Mazars LLP, Southampton, SO15 2BE

Date:

19/9/2011

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*.