

(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 2009

Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/533) as amended by the Accounts and Audit
(Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/564)

<p>1. The audit of accounts for the Council/Meeting (a) for the year ended 31 March 2009 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>STONY STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL</u> <u>TO THE LIBRARY, 5-7 CHURCH ST</u> <u>STONY STRATFORD, MK11 1BD</u></p> <p>between the hours of (c) <u>10 am</u> and (c) <u>3pm</u> on Mondays to Fridays (excluding public holidays), when any local government elector may make copies of the Annual Return</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE: THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM NOON ON 24 DEC '09 TO 10am ON JAN 4 '10</p> <p>3. Copies will be provided to any local government elector on payment of £<u>0.20</u>(d) for each copy of the Annual Return.</p> <p>Announcement made by: (e) <u>CHARLES BRINDLEY, CLERK TO THE COUNCIL</u></p> <p>Date of announcement: (f) <u>23 DECEMBER 2009</u></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 – Statement of accounts for

STONY STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL

In completing the boxes below please explain any significant variances on a separate sheet and send this to the external auditor together with a copy of your bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2009.

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2008 £	31 March 2009 £	
1 Balances brought forward	122,737	89,164	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	113,718	123,267	Total amount of precept received in the year.
3 (+) Total other receipts	19,373	23,230	Total receipts or income as recorded in the cashbook less the precept. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.
4 (-) Staff costs	35,272	38,320	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 borrowings (if any).
6 (-) Total other payments	131,392	134,593	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	89,164	62,747	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	77,608	61,574	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	72,858	74,993	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	NA	NA	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 the statement of accounts contained in this annual return presents fairly the financial position of the council/meeting and its income and expenditure, or properly presents receipts and payments, as the case may be, for the year ended 31 March 2009.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer

LPB-dley

Date 16/06/2009

I confirm that these accounts were approved by the council/meeting and recorded as minute reference

F036/09

Date 16/06/2009

Signed by Chair of meeting approving this statement of accounts

Rhys Gwynn

Date 16/6/09

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 statement of accounts. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009, that:

	Agreed – Yes or No*	'Yes' means that the council/meeting:
1 we have approved the statement of accounts which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices.	Yes	prepared its statement of accounts 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 which 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's accounting records and control systems and carried out a review of its effectiveness.	Yes	arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether these meet the needs of the council and reviewed the impact of this work.
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 statement of accounts.	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 council/meeting and recorded as minute reference

F036/09

dated 16/06/2009

Signed on behalf of **STONY STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL**

Signed by: Chair *Ronan Glynn*

Date 16/6/09

Signed by: Clerk *GPB-dley*

Date 16/06/2009

***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 2009 of

STONM STAFFORD TOWN

COUNCIL/MEETING

Respective responsibilities of the council and the auditor

The council is responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and for the preparation of an annual return which:

- summarises the council’s accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2009; 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

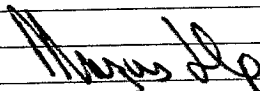
~~(Except for the matters reported below)*~~ on the basis of our review, in our opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission’s requirements and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. (*delete as appropriate).

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

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

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

External auditor’s signature



External auditor’s name

MAZARS LLP. SOUTHAMPTON
SO15 2BE

Date

21/12/09

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*.