

Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2020/21 Part 2PM

To be completed by all Parish Meetings that neither received gross income nor incurred gross expenditure exceeding £25,000 in the year of account ended 31 March 2021, and that wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015

There is no requirement to have a limited assurance review or to submit an Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the external auditor, **provided** that the Parish Meeting has certified itself as exempt at a Parish Meeting held between **1 April and 30 June 2021** and a completed Certificate of Exemption is submitted no later than **30 June 2021** notifying the external auditor.

WHITSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

certifies that during the financial year 2020/21, the higher of the Parish Meeting's total gross income for the year or total gross annual expenditure for the year did not exceed **£25,000**

Total annual gross income for the Parish Meeting 2020/21:

£1,953

Total annual gross expenditure for the Parish Meeting 2020/21:

£1,800

There are certain circumstances in which an Parish Meeting will be **unable to certify itself as exempt**, so that a limited assurance review will still be required. If a Parish Meeting is **unable to confirm the statements below then it cannot certify itself as exempt** and it **must** submit the completed Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 3PM to the external auditor to undertake a limited assurance review for which a fee of **£200 +VAT** will be payable.


By signing this **Certificate of Exemption** you are confirming that:

- This parish has no Parish Council
- The authority was in existence on 1st April 2017
- In relation to the preceding financial year (2019/20), the external auditor **has not**:
 - issued a public interest report in respect of the Parish Meeting or any entity connected with it
 - made a statutory recommendation to the Parish Meeting
 - issued an advisory notice under paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 8 to the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 ("the Act"), and not withdrawn the notice
 - commenced judicial review proceedings under section 31(1) of the Act
 - made an **application under** section 28(1) of the Act for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful, and the application has not been withdrawn nor has the court refused to make the declaration
- The court has not declared an item of account unlawful after a person made an appeal under section 28(3) of the Act.

If you are able to **confirm** that the above statements **apply** and that the Parish Meeting neither **received gross income**, nor **incurred gross expenditure**, exceeding **£25,000**, then the Certificate of Exemption can be signed and a copy submitted to the external auditor **either** by email **or** by post (not both).

The Annual Internal Audit Report, Annual Governance Statement, and Annual Accounting Statements still need to be fully completed and, along with a copy of this certificate and notice of the **period** for the exercise of public rights, published on a suitable website or be publicly displayed in the local area before 1 July 2021. **By signing this certificate you are also confirming that you are aware of this requirement.**

Signed by Chairman



Date

24/05/2021

I confirm that this Certificate of Exemption was approved by this Parish Meeting on this date:

24/05/2021

as recorded in minute reference:

24/05/2021 ITEM 7

Email

WHITSBURYCLERK@OUTLOOK.COM

Telephone number -

01425 650338

Place where this Certificate of Exemption is published or displayed (e.g. Parish Notice Board, Newsletter, Village website, etc.)

WHITSBURY VILLAGE HALL

ONLY a copy of this Certificate of Exemption should be returned **EITHER** by email **OR** by post (not both) as soon as possible after certification to your external auditor but no later than 30 June 2021. **Reminder letters incur a charge of £40 +VAT.**

Part 2PM Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020/21

We acknowledge as the members of:

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for 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 2021, that:

	Agreed		'Yes' means that this Parish Meeting:
	Yes	No	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		<i>prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.</i>
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		<i>made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.</i>
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this Parish Meeting to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		<i>has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.</i>
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.	✓		<i>during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this Parish Meeting's accounts.</i>
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this Parish Meeting and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		<i>considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.</i>
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		<i>arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls met the needs of this Parish Meeting.</i>
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		<i>responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.</i>
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 this Parish Meeting and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		<i>disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.</i>

*For any statement to which the response is 'no', an explanation must be published or displayed

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a Parish Meeting on:

24/05/2021

and recorded as minute reference:

24/05/2021 ITEM 7

Signed by the Chairman of the meeting where approval was given:

Chairman

Part 2PM Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2020/21 for

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2021 £	
			<i>Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures must agree to underlying financial records.</i>
1. Balances brought forward	4,723	11,522	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. (+) Precept	1,800	1,800	Total amount of precept received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	7,122	153	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	240	220	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the Parish Meeting's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	1,883	1,580	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	11,522	11,675	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	11,522	11,675	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 plus long term investments	6,040	6,040	"The value of all the property the Parish Meeting owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March."
10. Total borrowings	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2021 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in *Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices* and present fairly the financial position of this Parish Meeting.

Signed by the Chairman before being presented to the Parish Meeting for approval



Date

24/05/2021

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this Parish Meeting on this date:

24/05/2021

as recorded in minute reference:

24/05/2021 ITEM 7

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

