

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

We acknowledge as the members of:

DOCKING PARISH COUNCIL

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 2023, that:

	Agreed		
	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>'Yes' means that this authority:</i> <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 authority 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 authority's accounts.</i>
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority 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 meet the needs of this smaller authority.</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 authority 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>
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
	☐	☐	☒
			<i>has met all of its responsibilities where, as a body corporate, it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.</i>

***Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.**

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

20/04/2023

and recorded as minute reference:

APRIL 2023 - 11.3

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

Chairman

Clerk

<https://docking-parish-council.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

SITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2022/23 for

DOCKING PARISH COUNCIL

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2022 £	31 March 2023 £	
1. Balances brought forward	23,183	24,132	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. 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 or Rates and Levies	14,195	19,120	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	9,019	16,120	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	11,947	9,866	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 authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	10,319	21,049	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cash-book less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	24,132	28,257	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	24,132	28,257	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 and assets	57,041	55,282	The value of all the property the authority 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).

For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	N/A	
11a. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)		✓		The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
11b. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)			✓	The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2023 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 authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

Date

20/04/2023

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

20/04/2023.

as recorded in minute reference:

APRIL 2023 – 11.4

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

Bank reconciliation – pro forma

This reconciliation should include all bank and building society accounts, including short term investment accounts. It **must** include a column headed "Year ending 31 March 20xx" in Section 2 of the AGAR – and will also agree to Box 7 where the accounts are on a payments basis. Please complete the highlighted boxes, remembering that unpresented cheques should be entered as follows:

Name of smaller authority:

DOCKING PARISH COUNCIL

County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

NORFOLK

Financial year ending 31 March 2023

Prepared by (Name and Role):

MICHELLE WROTH - CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER

Date:

10/04/2023

Balance per bank statements as at 31/3/23:

£

£

Current
Savings
CIL
account 4
account 5
account 6
account 7
account 8

8,485.9
14,930.3
6,425.2

[add more accounts if necessary]

29,841.4

Petty cash float (if applicable)

Less: any unpresented cheques as at 31/3/23 (enter these as negative numbers)

Grant returned to NCF
British Legion
item 3
item 4
item 5
item 6
item 7
item 8

(1,574.00)
(50.00)

[add more lines if necessary]

Add: any un-banked cash as at 31/3/23

Allotment Rent

40.0

(1,624.00)

Net balances as at 31/3/23 (Box 8)

40.0

28,257.4

Next, please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following that will be flagged in the green boxes where relevant:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- **New from 2020/21 onwards:** variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
- a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

	2021/22 £	2022/23 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input. DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	23,183	24,132					
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	14,195	19,120	4,925	34.70%	YES		
3 Total Other Receipts	9,019	16,120	7,101	78.73%	YES		The Parish Council budgeted to start two new projects these being restoring a Grade II listed village asset and a pond appearance project £10,300, match funding was received
4 Staff Costs	11,847	9,886	-2,081	17.42%	YES		Grant income was up by £11.5k, CIL income was down by (3.3k), 2 years of verge cutting was received in 21/22 accounts due to an earlier error, 2022 verge income from Norfolk County Council received correctly.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		Overtime was not claimed (£2k)
6 All Other Payments	10,319	21,049	10,730	103.98%	YES		Repairs/renewals up £3k due to resotting Grade II building, open spaces up £3.7k due to the pond project, CIL spending up £1.5k on the previous year this was to clear a piece of parish land left overgrown and full of rubbish. The Parish Council paid back an unspent grant received for £1.5k for the Community Hot-Spot
7 Balances Carried Forward	24,131	28,457			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	24,132	28,287				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	57,041	55,292	-1,759	3.08%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable

BOX 10 VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED IF CHANGE CAN BE EXPLAINED BY BOX 5 (CAPITAL PLUS INTEREST PAYMENT)