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14 November 2023

Mrs Zoe Caddy
Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
17 Four Wells Road
Colehill
Dorset BH21 7BA

FAO – Councillor Nigel Bridle (Chair)

Dear Councillor Bridle,

I have reviewed the controls and procedures in place for the accounts up to and including 30 September 2023 in accordance with the guidelines laid down. From extensive testing undertaken and the records examined, I am satisfied that reliance can be placed on the controls and procedures in place.

The following areas were covered as part of this review:

- All invoices were verified to the finance records and bank statements to ensure compliance with the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
- The VAT records were verified and checked to ensure compliance with VAT Regulations. VAT reclaims are being made in a timely manner.
- Cheque numbers recorded on the bank statement were tested for continuity to establish if any cheques had been cancelled and to ensure that all cheques were accounted for.
- All cheques were verified to the financial records and bank statements. All cancelled cheques were accounted for and evidenced.
- The Asset Register is confirmed as being adequately maintained, regularly reviewed, and that insurance levels are appropriate.
- Bank reconciliations are being undertaken regularly and in a timely manner.
- Salaries and expenses are being properly recorded and authorised and the appropriate bodies paid the correct amounts in respect of deductions and contributions as approved by Members; and
- Expenditure was confirmed as being appropriate to the Service and budgets are being regularly monitored and reported to Members.

Any anomalies identified during the course of this audit have been discussed and resolved with the Clerk. There are no issues to report, and I am satisfied with the recording of the accounts, which are very nicely maintained. I would like to thank the Clerk for their continued assistance in completing this audit.

Jane P Stacey – AAT, BA(Hons), DipHSW