

## **Metherringham, Sots Hole and Tanvats Parish Council**

### **2024-25 AGAR Annual Governance Statement**

#### **Explanation of “NO” Responses**

<b>Internal Control Objective</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Reason</b>
1	No	The council did not always have appropriate accounting records kept throughout the year, due to the absence of a Clerk or RFO. This was remedied from Feb 2025 onwards, with the appointment of a temporary RFO, and records were retrospectively compiled.
2	No	The council did not always follow its Financial Regulations as evidenced by purchases made without the council’s authority and in the absence of specific delegations. All purchases are now approved at full council meetings.
3	No	As per Response 2, the council did not always follow its Financial Regulations in approving purchases at a meeting and ensuring it had an appropriate legal power to do so. This does now happen.
4	No	During 2024, the council did not publish a Notice of Public Rights for the full required period.
5	No	During 2024-25, the council did not review its Risk Register. This has now been addressed by full council.
6	No	The council did arrange for a competent Internal Auditor to audit the 2023-24 year, but the report was not adequately shared with full council for actions to be agreed upon.
7	No	As per Response 6, the recommendations of the Internal Auditor were not acted upon.
8	No	The council did not adequately minute all decisions and approval of payments, denying the public full disclosure of its activities.

It should be noted that the Council has now appointed experienced officers (a Clerk and separate RFO) and many of these failings have already been addressed.