

## Minutes of Accounts and Audit

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 28 July 2021, starting at 6.30pm  
Present: Councillor D Berryman (Chair)

Councillors:

S Bibby	R Newmark
B Buller	D Peat
L Edge	J Rogerson
S Fletcher	R Sherras
S Hirst	

In attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Resources, Head of Financial Services, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Georgia Jones – Grant Thornton and Maggie Nicholson – Independent Person

### 156 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

### 157 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 158 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests.

### 159 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

### 160 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2021/22

The Director of Resources submitted a report for information on the progress of internal audit work to 9 July 2021.

The Head of Financial Services reminded members that as we currently have two vacant posts in the Internal Audit Section we are using Mersey Internal Audit Agency to carry out some audits. They are currently carrying out audits included in the 2020/21 audit plan.

He informed members that interviews were taking place for the Internal Audit Assistant in the next week, and that the Principal Auditor post had been re-evaluated, renamed Internal Audit Manager and would be advertised again soon.

He also reassured members that the necessary work on key financial systems would be carried out in order to give the internal audit opinion to Members.

### 161 AUDIT PLAN - YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2021

Georgia Jones, Engagement Lead at Grant Thornton submitted a report for information on the Ribble Valley BC audit plan for year ending 31 March 2021.

The document gave an overview of the planned scope and timing of the statutory audit of the Council for those charged with governance. She highlighted the main headings of significant risks, materiality, value for money arrangements and audit logistics. Members were informed that because of other work pressures the final audit would be put back to September/October 2021.

A brief discussion took place around the increase in the annual audit fees, and reference was made to the new auditing standards that introduced a revised approach to value for money work.

162                   REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from representatives on outside bodies.

163                   EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items under this heading.

The meeting closed at 6.52pm

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact the committee clerk, Olwen Heap [olwen.heap@ribblevalley.gov.uk](mailto:olwen.heap@ribblevalley.gov.uk).