

Financial Risk Assessment -Wickersley Parish Council 2021

		Reviewed April 2021 at Full Council Meeting, 26/4/2021		
Category	Potential Risk	Responsibility	Measures taken	Action
FINANCIAL RISK				
Banking arrangements	Poor controls on banking arrangements open possibility of fraud or misappropriation of funds	Co-operative bank via Post Office or branch	Changes to mandate approved by Council Minute.	
Borrowing arrangements	Potential for fraud or mis-appropriation of funds	Council	All borrowing minuted and reviewed within budget statements	
Budget	Inadequate overall budget causes spending difficulties / financial loss. Over estimating budget, causing increase to reserve value	The Clerk	Reviewed at committee meetings by the Clerk and committee and quarterly throughout year by full council	
Business Planning	Potential to have only a short-term view of planning. Lack of clarification of allocation of reserves.	Finance Committee	Business Plan in place and reviewed by Finance Committee in conjunction with reserves policy.	
Council Financial Regulations	Regulations do not reflect any changes in year and Council acts unlawfully beyond its powers.	Council.	Annual review of adequacy and update whenever an update received from NALC/YLCA	Updated to latest NALC model April 2021

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Expenditure approval	Poor controls on spending arrangements open possibility of fraud or misappropriation of funds	Clerk Imprest / Full Council main account	List approved at monthly meeting of Council. Payments on debit card(replaced Clerks imprest account)reported at monthly council meeting. Scheme of delegation set within Financial regulations	
Fraud / Misappropriation of funds	Financial loss.	Finance Committee.	One internal audit per annum. One external audit per annum. The Council meet monthly and approve all expenditure. Quarterly check of bank reconcilliation and balances by finance chair. Appointment of suitably qualified clerk. Annual review of internal controls. Annual review of the effectiveness of internal audit.	
Inland Revenue payments	Payments not made may lead to fines or prosecution	The Clerk	Sage Payroll + support in use. Payments made monthly and reviewed by Council.	
Internal audit testing	Potential for fraud or mis-appropriation of funds	Voluntary Action Rotherham	Testing is based on internal audit principles within law.	
Precept	Inadequate precept causes overspent budget / financial loss.	The Clerk/Council	Precept based on realistic budget. Discussed, approved and signed-off by Council In January. Regular quarterly	

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			budget monitoring statements.	
VAT payments	Payments not made may lead to fines or prosecution	The Clerk	VAT returns performed at least quarterly, and meets HMRC digital submission requirements.	
INSURANCE				
Insurance (robustness of provider)	Financial Loss.	BHIB Ltd	Company provide insurance cover for hundreds of local councils.	
Insurance Cover (consequential)	Financial loss.	BHIB Ltd	Reviewed annually and cross-checked against income/expenditure account to determine level of cover required.	Cost benefit to 3 year contract, latest contract commenced 1/6/2021 for 3 years
Insurance Cover (Employment & public liability)	Financial loss.	BHIB Ltd	Currently £10m	
Insurance Cover (fidelity)	Financial loss.	BHIB Ltd	Reviewed annually with due regard to maximum exposure.	Increased in line with advice from Internal Auditor 2020
Insurance Cover (furniture/equipment)	Financial loss.	Inventory register	This figure is reviewed annually and cross-checked against the inventory register.	

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Insurance Cover (physical assets)	Financial loss.	BHIB Ltd	This cover is index linked. The property (rebuilding) cost is based on insurance revaluations.	The 4 main buildings were revalued in April 2021 for insurance purposes, Community Centre, Winthrop, Bob Mason Pavilion, and Tanyard Toilets
Insurance (review of risk)	Financial loss.	Internal audit	Internal Audit is carried out once a year and the Clerk and Auditor review the general risk strategy	
GENERAL				
Asset (maintenance)	Potential for loss, damage or mis-appropriation of assets by unauthorised persons.	Council.	Inventory register updated annually, equipment inspected.	
Contracts (actual)	Unlawful contracts entered into leading to financial loss and/or litigation.	Approved by Council	Reviewed annually	
Contracts of Employment	Employment Tribunals leading to potential for financial loss, and legal action.	Council.	New contracts issued to reflect changes in legislation.	
Employment Law	Employment Tribunals leading to potential for financial loss, and legal action.	Human Resources Committee.	Regular review of effects of changes to employment law via YLCA White Rose Bulletins and action plan approved by Human Resources Committee.	

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Loss of computer records	Loss of data.	The Clerk	Backup of all computer records onto external drive. Drive held at separate site. Key documents printed and filed in hard copy. Cloud back-up. Contract with BHPIT (third party software management company) to manage IT requirements.	
Loss of Parish Clerk	Council unable to function.	Council.	Assistant Clerk in Post / Clerk to Maltby to cover in emergency / YLCA locum cover available.	Deputy Parish Clerk position created November 2020 who would cover after discussion with HR Committee
Maintenance of vulnerable equipment	Injury leading to financial loss and/or litigation.	Handypersons.	Checked daily by Parish Council Handypersons	
Performance measurement	Employment Tribunals leading to potential for financial loss, and legal action.	Council.	Appraisals form aprt of employment contracts .	Appraisals to action 21/22
Proper reporting in minutes. Minutes signed, paginated and numbered.	Council acts unlawfully if proper minutes not kept.	The officer of the meeting	Minutes approved each month. Committee minutes approved at the following committee meeting.	
Register of members interests	Council acts unlawfully if resolutions passed without declarations of interest.	The Clerk	New Councillors asked to sign forms. All Councillors asked to review records every year.	All Councillors from May 2021 elections completed all relevant paperwork and sent to RMBC
Updated 23/6/2021 following finance committee on 16/6/2021				

