STRATFORD-UPON-AVON TOWN COUNCIL

Council

17 June 2025

Town Clerk's Open Report

1. Financial Statements (Annual Accounts) for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

- **To approve the Financial Statements (Annual Accounts) for the year ended 31 March 2025**

It is necessary for Council to approve the Financial Statements (Annual Accounts) and Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) in June each year, as the deadline date for submission to the External Auditor is on or before 30 June 2025. The responsibility to approve these documents cannot be delegated to a Standing Committee.

The year-end Financial Statements (Annual Accounts), attached as Appendix 'A', were presented at the Finance & Audit Committee Meeting on 3 June 2024. Management Accounts can be viewed at: Finance (stratford-tc.gov.uk)

It was subsequently

RECOMMENDED: That the Financial Statements (Annual Accounts) for the year 2024/25 be approved by Council

Earmarked Reserves	Balance (£)
Allotments	4,662
Building Maintenance	10,664
Cemetery Land and Building Maintenance	64,305
Climate Change	11,108
Community Infrastructure Levy	127,921
Election Expenses	15,522
Events	10,000
Holy Trinity Churchyard and Monuments	8,633
NDP Town Centre Strategic Partnership Initiatives	198
Shakespeare's Birthday Celebration	67,403
Shakespeare's Coming Home Statue Restoration	8547
Vehicle Replacement	5188
TOTAL:	**342,084**

2. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25

• To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return

• To approve the Accounting Statements 2024/25 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return

The Council's Internal Auditor, Mulberry is completing the annual internal audit which is required for the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR).

The Internal Audit Report, together with the other pages of the AGAR, are attached as Appendices B, C and D. Any changes to these documents will be tabled at the meeting and a verbal update given.

RECOMMENDED: **That Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), which includes the Annual Internal Audit Report, Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements for the year 2024/25, be approved by Council.**

In line with official guidance, the documents should be formally and individually approved by Council in the following order:
2.1) Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25
2.2) Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25

3. Financial Regulations for the Council

- **To adopt the new Financial Regulations**

Finance and Audit Committee at its meeting on 3 June 2025 recommended for adopting the new Financial Regulations (attached) for the Council, which are based on the latest model provided by the National Association of Local Councils.

Town Clerk