

Ardleigh Parish Council
BY EMAIL

DDI:
+44 (0)20 7516 2200
Email:
sba@pkf-l.com
Date:
01 September 2026
Our Ref:
EX0007
SAAA Ref:
SB00262

Ardleigh Parish Council
Completion of the limited assurance review for the year ended 31 March 2026

Dear Ms Fletcher

We have completed our review of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) for Ardleigh Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2026. Please find our external auditor report and certificate (Section 3 of the AGAR Form 3) included for your attention as an attachment to the email containing this letter along with a copy of Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR, on which our report is based.

The external auditor report and certificate details any matters arising from the review. The smaller authority must publish these documents immediately and at the next meeting consider the final external auditor report and decide what, if any, action is required.

Action you are required to take at the conclusion of the review

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234) set out what you must do at the conclusion of the review. In summary, you are required to:

- Prepare a “Notice of conclusion of audit” which details the rights of inspection, in line with the statutory requirements. We attach a pro forma notice you may use for this purpose (a Word version is available on request).
- Publish the “Notice” along with the certified AGAR (Sections 1, 2 & 3) before 30 September 2026, which must include publication on the smaller authority’s website. (Please note that when the statute and regulations were amended in 2014 and 2015, they did not include a requirement for the length of time for which that the “Notice” must be published. The previous statute required 14 days; but it is now up to the authority to make this decision).
- Keep copies of the AGAR available for purchase by any person on payment of a reasonable sum.
- Ensure that Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the published AGAR remain available for public access for a period of not less than 5 years from the date of publication.

Fee

We enclose our fee note, on page 4 of this attachment, for the limited assurance review, which is in accordance with the fee scales set by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd which can be found at <https://www.saaa.co.uk/audit-fees/>. This fee is statutory, must be paid and is due immediately on receipt of invoice, please arrange for this to be paid **at the earliest opportunity**.

Additional charges are itemised on the fee note, where applicable. These arise where either:

- we have had to issue chaser letters and/or exercise our statutory powers due to a failure to provide an AGAR by the submission deadline; or
- it was necessary for us to undertake additional work.

Please return the remittance advice with your payment, which should be sent to: PKF Littlejohn LLP, Ref: Credit control (SBA), 30 Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5RE. Please include the reference EX0007 or Ardeleigh Parish Council as a reference when paying by BACS.

Timetable for 2026/27

Next year we plan to set a submission deadline for the return of the completed AGAR Form 3 and associated documents (or Certificate of Exemption) in the usual way and this is expected to be Thursday 1 July 2027. It is anticipated that the instructions will be sent out during March 2027, subject to arrangements for the 2026/27 AGARs and Certificates of Exemption being finalised by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Limited (SAAA). Our instructions will cover any changes about which smaller authorities need to be aware.

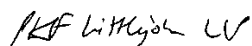
- The smaller authority must inform the electorate of a single period of 30 working days during which public rights may be exercised. The period must be **exactly** 30 working days, please do not set public rights dates that cover a longer period. This information **must be published at least the day before** the inspection period commences;
- The inspection period **must** include the first 10 working days of July 2027, i.e. 1 to 14 July inclusive. In practice this means that public rights may be exercised:
 - at the earliest, between Thursday 3 June and Wednesday 14 July 2027; and
 - at the latest, between Thursday 1 July and Wednesday 11 August 2027.

As in previous years, in order to assist you in this process we plan to include a pro forma template notice with a suggested inspection period on our website. On submitting your AGAR and associated documentation, as was the case for this year, we will need you to either confirm that the suggested dates have been adopted or inform us of the alternative dates selected.

Feedback on 2025/26

We would welcome feedback on your experiences with PKF Littlejohn LLP during the review for the year ended 31 March 2026. Such feedback is important to us to help us drive improvements in client service. If you wish to provide feedback, our satisfaction survey template can be used, which is available on our website on this page: <https://www.pkf-l.com/satisfaction-survey-for-the-year-ended-31-march-2026/>

Yours sincerely



PKF Littlejohn LLP

Ardleigh Parish Council

Notice of conclusion of audit

Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2026

Sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

Section 16 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

	Notes
1. The audit of accounts for Ardleigh Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2026 has been completed and the accounts have been published.	This notice and Sections 1, 2 & 3 of the AGAR must be published by 30 September. This must include publication on the smaller authority's website. The smaller authority must decide how long to publish the Notice for; the AGAR and external auditor report must be publicly available for 5 years.
2. The Annual Governance & Accountability Return including the auditor's certificate and opinion is available for inspection and copying by any local government elector of the area of Ardleigh Parish Council on application to: (a) _____ _____ _____ _____ (b) _____ _____ _____	(a) Insert the name, position and address of the person to whom local government electors should apply to inspect the AGAR (b) Insert the hours during which inspection rights may be exercised
3. Copies will be provided to any local government elector of the area on payment of £____ (c) for each copy of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return.	(c) Insert a reasonable sum for copying costs
Announcement made by: (d) _____	(d) Insert the name and position of person placing the notice
Date of announcement: (e) _____	(e) Insert the date of placing of the notice

Ardleigh Parish Council

Our ref EX0007**SAAA Ref** SB00262**Invoice No.** SB20261270**VAT No.** GB 440 4982 50**Email:** sba@pkf-l.com**Date:** 01 September 2026

INVOICE

Professional services rendered in connection with the following:

Limited assurance review of Annual Governance & Accountability Return for year ended 31 March 2026	£420.00
Additional charges (where applicable) as detailed on attached appendix A	£0.00
Additional fees (where applicable) as detailed by separate cover	£0.00
TOTAL NET	£420.00
VAT @ 20%	£84.00
TOTAL PAYABLE	£504.00

THIS IS A STATUTORY FEE WHICH MUST BE PAID. PAYMENT IS DUE ON RECEIPT OF INVOICE

The fees and charges are in accordance with the fee scales set by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd which can be found at <https://www.saaa.co.uk/audit-fees/>

**For payments by cheque, please return the remittance advice with your payment to:
PKF Littlejohn LLP, Credit Control (SBA), 30 Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London E14 5RE**

For payments by credit transfer, our bank details are:-

HSBC Bank plc
Address: 1-3 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 3AQ
Sort Code: 40-02-31
Account number: 11070797
Account Name: PKF Littlejohn LLP
Please include EX0007 or Ardleigh Parish Council as the reference.

For account queries, contact sba@pkf-l.com

PKF Littlejohn LLP
30 Churchill Place
London
E14 5RE

T: +44 (0)20 7516 2200
www.pkf-l.com

Ardleigh Parish Council

Our ref EX0007**SAAA Ref** SB00262**Invoice No.** SB20261270**VAT No.** GB 440 4982 50**Email:** sba@pkf-l.com**Date:** 01 September 2026

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