

Pelton Parish Council

Statement to Ensure the Parish Council delivers value for money

These are the priorities of the Parish Council-

1. To have good financial control through legal procedures

The council is subject to a number of legal requirements dealing with how it spends parishioners' money which is raised mainly through the parish council precept. All cheques for signatures require the authorisation of two approved councillors.

The financial operation of the council is controlled by government guidelines published in their Accounts and Audit Regulation which are regularly updated. The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) is familiar with these regulations and works within their guidance.

2. Quality Audit Process

The council have a three-tier level of audit where two of the Parish Councillors (Chair and Vice Chair) carry out monthly checks to ensure that the procedures are being adhered to. There is an annual internal audit and then an annual external audit which is a statutory audit. All of these checks ensure financial transactions are scrutinised to ensure value for money.

3. Focus resources on important matters to the local community

The parish council reviews all payments regularly at the parish council meeting. The council provides grants to the two local community centres in order to improve the health and wellbeing of all local residents. The council regularly makes donations to local organisations using the section 137 process.

4. Set a fair and reasonable annual parish precept

The parish council meets in October to consider the following year's budget requirements, taking into account projects and requests from local organisations. In mid-January there is a Special Finance Meeting held where the budget for the next financial year is agreed and the precept required is then confirmed at the January Parish Council Meeting.

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Reviewed – November 2020

Next Review in May 2025