

The annual summary of accounts for
Severn Stoke and Croome d’Abitot Parish Council
2025 to 2026

This document summarises the data and tables included in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26 for this Parish Council.

The first section, which has no official section number, is the Annual Internal Audit Report for the financial year 2025 to 2026

This section is aimed to be signed by the internal auditor Mr Philip J. Moore in June 2026 to confirm his agreement that the following internal controls/standards were properly attended to and met. This council asserts that all sections should be ticked ‘yes’ by the External Auditor, except section F (this parish council has no petty cash).

- A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.
- B. This authority complied with its financial regulations; payments were supported by invoices.
- C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.
- D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.
- E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.

- F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for. (N/a – this parish council has no petty cash).
- G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.
- H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.
- I. Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.
- J. Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.
- K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in the previous year, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its AGAR tick "not covered").
- L. The authority properly published all required documents on a website in an up-to-date fashion and in accordance with the law.
- M. The authority has demonstrated that during 2025/2026 it correctly provided for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
- N. The authority has complied with the publication requirement for 2024/25 AGAR.

The second section, which is labelled as Section 1, is the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26

This section summarises the parish council's assertion that effective management procedures have been put in place and adhered to. The tables within it read as follows:

We acknowledge as the members of this Parish Council our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026, that:

1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters actual or potential for non-compliance with laws and proper practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct business or manage its finances.
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.

6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.

This form will be signed by the Parish Clerk Mrs Lisa Stevens and the Chair to the parish council and dated in June 2026.

The third section, which is labelled as Section 2, is the Accounting Statements for this Parish Council for the 2025 to 2026 financial year

1. Balances brought forward £13,498.
2. Precept or Rates and Levies £14,000
3. Total other receipts £17,604
4. Staff costs £4,048
5. Loan interest/capital repayments £0 Nil.
6. All other payments £15,138
7. Balances carried forward £25,916
8. Total value of cash and short-term investments £25,916
9. Total fixed assets, long term investments & assets £43,972
10. Total borrowings £0 Nil.

It will be certified that for the year ended 31 March 2026 the Accounting Statements in the this Annual Governance and

Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – A Practitioners Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority. Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval. To be signed L.Stevens parish clerk in June 2026.

It will be confirmed that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date: in June 2026, as recorded in the minutes.

To be signed by Chairman of the Council Richard Hill.

For additional information or further assistance, please contact the Parish Clerk for Severn Stoke and Croome d’Abitot Parish Council,
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-end of this summary published in advance of June 2026.-