

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2025/26

We acknowledge as the members of:

BARTON ST DAVID

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:

	Agreed		"Yes" means that this authority:
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3. We have assured ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.
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.	✓		during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.
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.	✓		considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		responded to matters brought to its attention by 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.	✓		disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
			✓
10. We have put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under review.		✓	has made suitable arrangements for its IT and data management and has complied with proper practices in doing so.

***Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.**

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

18/05/2026

and recorded as minute reference:

15.26

Signed by the Chair and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chair

Clerk

bartonstdavidparish.gov.uk

We have done a considerable amount to improve the accessibility of our website but we don't have the budget allocation to totally rebuild the site which would be necessary to answer yes to question 10 in the Governance Statement. Please see outlined below in our accessibility statement, this explains why we answered no and our ongoing actions to improve our website.



Barton St David
Parish Council

Accessibility Statement

This accessibility statement applies to the Parish Council pages of the Barton St David website at <https://bartonstdavidparish.gov.uk>.

Please note: This website contains information relating to the whole village which the Parish Council does not own or monitor. This statement relates to Parish Council content only but it does proactively assist in improving accessibility across the wider site.

Barton St David Parish Council is committed to making its website accessible, in accordance with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

How accessible this website is

We want as many people as possible to be able to use this website. For example, that means you should be able to:

- change colours, contrast levels and text size using your browser or device settings
- navigate most of the site using only a keyboard
- navigate most of the site using speech recognition software
- listen to most of the site using a screen reader

We have also made the site text as simple and intuitive as possible to use.

[AbilityNet](#) has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

Compliance status

This website is partially compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.2 AA standard, due to the non-compliances and exemptions listed below.

Non-accessible content

The content listed below is non-accessible for the following reasons.

Non-compliance with the accessibility regulations

- Some content may not yet meet every success criterion of WCAG 2.2 AA. We are working to identify and resolve specific issues.
- Some PDF and Word documents published since September 2018 may not be fully accessible to screen reader software. We aim for any new documents we publish to meet accessibility standards.

- Some interactive elements or forms may not work perfectly with all assistive technologies

Disproportionate burden

We have assessed the cost of purchasing a fully accessible replacement website against the Parish Council's annual budget and the benefit to users. The conclusion was that this would represent a disproportionate burden within the meaning of the accessibility regulations. We are instead making incremental improvements to accessibility within our existing platform.

Content that is not within the scope of the accessibility regulations

- Some older PDF and Word documents published before 23 September 2018 may not be fully accessible. The accessibility regulations do not require us to fix these if they are not essential to providing our services.
- Third-party content on the wider village website that is not under the Parish Council's control.

What we're doing to improve accessibility

We regularly maintain and update the site content and structure. Improvements include:

- reviewing and updating older documents for accessibility where practicable
- ensuring new PDF and Word documents meet accessibility standards
- improving navigation and readability across pages

Feedback and contact information

If you have difficulty accessing any part of this website, or experience barriers that are not listed in this statement, please contact us so we can help and improve the site.

You can also request information in a different format by emailing the Clerk at clerk@bartonstdavidparish.gov.uk

We will consider your request and get back to you within 14 days.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you should use our complaints procedure in the first instance.

Enforcement procedure

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is responsible for enforcing the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 (the 'accessibility regulations'). If you're not happy with how we respond to your complaint, please contact the [Equality Advisory and Support Service \(EASS\)](#).

Preparation of this accessibility statement

This statement was prepared on 1st April 2026.

The statement was last reviewed on 26th March 2026

The website was last assessed for accessibility on 18th March 2026 The assessment was carried out by self-evaluation by the Parish Council.