**Recommendations from Internal Auditor**

I have prepared the following appendix which disputes the conclusion and recommendation given by the internal auditor.

*Overall Conclusion by Auditor:*

*I am pleased to conclude that, in the areas examined, the Council has effective systems in place to ensure that transactions are free from material misstatement and should be reported accurately in the Statement of Accounts for 2021-22. In the information presented to me there was evidence that the appropriate VAT had not always been recorded to be reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs, and as such I have had to qualify my report in this area.*

*Recommendations by Auditor*

*VAT should be reclaimed on a regular basis, at least annually, and all expenditure reviewed and VAT reclaimed whenever possible to ensure the precept received by the Parish is utilised in full in the most effective way possible.*

VAT is claimed at the end of each financial year and is detailed throughout the year on the accounts spreadsheet which is presented every month to the Parish Council.

The total VAT claimed for 2021/22 was £346.90 and this was received in full on the 19th of May 2022. After an investigation, there seems to be a discrepancy between the spreadsheet the internal auditor received and the accounting spreadsheet. The Parish Council have been informed of the situation and agree that all VAT was claimed correctly.

Going forward, those invoices where no VAT can be claimed, will be detailed as such at the point of authorising.