

ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – INGESTRE WITH TIXALL PARISH COUNCIL

NO RESPONSES – CONTINUATION SHEET

In my report dated 17th, August 2020 I referred to the passing away of the former Clerk to Ingestre with Tixall Parish Council. The new Clerk encountered various problems accessing information to bank accounts and was also unable to gain access to the existing website to publish updates.

A decision was taken to ask Staffordshire County Council to build a new website, but due to COVID-19 issues their website team was reduced in capacity, as many team members were redeployed to help elsewhere, this meant that work on the new site could not commence until October 2020.

The following article was included in the September Parish Newsheet to inform residents of the situation:-

Parish Council website

Since the summer, the Clerk has been in discussion with Staffs County Council (SCC) about the creation of a new Parish Council website, however, these discussions have not been progressing as well as we had hoped. Covid-19 has had major resource implications for SCC and they have had to place a focus on the delivery of their 'core work', which meant that work for Parish Councils has had to come second.

This has caused some frustrations and delays and if residents are concerned about a lack of access to Parish Council information at this time, please email our Clerk, who should be able to provide you with the information you need. We are very aware of our responsibilities to communicate effectively with the community we serve, as well as the Website Accessibility Regulations that come into force on 23 September 2020. With this in mind, we are working closely with SCC to ensure that our new website is up and running as soon as is practicably possible.

I understand that the Notice for the period of public rights was displayed in the Parish Council Notice Boards from 25 August 2020.

On April 20th, 2021 the Clerk advised me that the website was now 'live'.

<https://ingestrewithtixallparishcouncil.co.uk/>

I am satisfied that the Clerk and Council have done everything possible to expedite the provision of a publicly accessible website, which they will continue to update as necessary throughout 2021/22.

Internal Auditor: Christine Heelis

Date: 26/04/2021

Signed:

C. Heelis