

## Section 3 – External auditor certificate and report

### 2015/16 Certificate

We certify that we have completed our review of the annual return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2016 in respect of:

Name of  
smaller authority:

Stephens Taylor Parish Council

### Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

This smaller authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The smaller authority prepares an annual return in accordance with proper practices which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2016; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

Our responsibility is to review the annual return in accordance with guidance issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (see note below). Our work does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA & Ireland) and does not provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.

### External auditor report

**Statement for the members appointed before:** On the basis of our review of the annual return, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. (Where applicable)

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

**Other matters:** No other matters affecting our opinion which are relevant to the operation of the smaller authority.

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

External auditor signature:

Morgan W

External auditor name:

Stephens Taylor LLP Durham, DH1 5TS

on 31 August 2016

**Note:** The Audit (Local Government) Regulations 2015 require external auditors' work on 2015/16 accounts to include Guidance Note 10(2)(b). The NAO is available from the NAO website ([www.nao.org.uk](http://www.nao.org.uk))