**NORTH LUFFENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS w.e.f APRIL 1st 2017**

As you will be aware the Audit Commission ceased to exist on April 1st 2015 and a new Company “Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Ltd” (SAAA) has been created to take over the appointment of external auditors and set audit fees for smaller authorities from 1 April 2017.

Note the following

* The new body will formally appoint external auditors very much as the audit commission did previously
* This will happen automatically unless we ‘opt out’ and appoint our own. If we want to do this we have until March 31st 2016 to decide
* We will still need to complete an annual return but there is no need to submit it. However an external auditor is still needed so that a disgruntled resident has a body to complain to.
* It is anticipated that SAAA will retain the fee structure already in place (nil for NLPC)

**I recommend that we do NOT opt out. It is likely that by appointing our own External Auditor will incur higher costs and more work**

Ian Ferguson

Parish Clerk

11-01-16