

STANDARDS COMMITTEE: 5 MARCH 2024

COUNCIL: 17 APRIL 2024

Report of: Head of Legal & Democratic Services

Contact for further information: Helen Peek (Extn 5168)

(E-mail: helen.peek@westlances.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the Parish Council Application (Appendix 1) for appointment to Standards Committee, and if supported;
- 1.2 To request the extension of the existing Parish Councillor Representative's Term of Appointment to coincide with the new appointment.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION STANDARDS COMMITTEE and COUNCIL

- 2.1 To note that following consideration of two Nominees to fulfil two Vacant Parish/Town Council Representative Positions on Standards Committee, The Appointment of Councillor Andrew Grant, as Parish/Town Council Representative on Standards Committee, for a term of three years, ending May 2026, was supported by Standards Committee 19 September 2023, and Endorsed by Council 18 October 2023. The other Nominee was deemed unsuitable therefore it was agreed that Standards Committee would proceed with one appointed Parish Councillor Representative and one Vacancy, until such time that application was received for the vacant position.
- 2.2 To consider and approve the Application (at Appendix 1) for appointment to the Vacant Position, and if supported by Standards Committee, Endorsement be given by Council on 17 April 2024, to Appoint the Applicant Councillor Derrick Moss as Parish Council Representative for the Term of Three Years, ending May 2027.

2.3 To approve extending the Term of Appointment of the existing Parish/Town Council Representative, Councillor Andrew Grant, to co-inside with the Newly Appointed Parish/Town Council Representative, with both Terms ending May 2027.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At Annual Council on 15 May 2019 it was resolved to appoint 2 Parish Council representatives to serve on the Standards Committee,
- 3.2 The procedure for the nomination and appointment of those representatives was agreed at the Standards Committee on 17 September 2019 and provided for Parish/Town Councils to submit nominations and subsequently vote on the nominees.
- 3.3 Two Parish Councillors were appointed for the term of three years, which ended May 2023. Following which applications for new nominations were requested from Parish Councils across West Lancs.
- 3.4 Two nominations were received and considered by Standards Committee 19 September 2023. One nominee was deemed suitable, and Council endorsed their three year Appointment, ending May 2026, at the meeting on 18 October 2023.
- 3.5 One Nominee was deemed unsuitable due to not meeting the criteria that:

 "The Member nominated should not be a Borough Councillor and ideally should not be a close friend of any member or officer of the Borough Council."
- 3.6 It was agreed at the Appointment of Councillor Andrew Grant, that Standards Committee would proceed with one appointed Parish Councillor Representative and one Vacancy, until such time that application was received for consideration of the vacant position.
- 3.8 Nomination has now been received for consideration to fill the Vacant position, which is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.9 Members are asked to consider the suitability of the application, and if agreed, endorsement be sought by full Council on 17 April 2024, to Appoint Councillor Derrick Moss as Parish Council Representative, for a Term of three years ending May 2027.
- 3.10 If the appointment of Councillor Derrick Moss is supported, Members are also asked to consider extending the Term of Appointment of existing Parish Council Representative, Andrew Grant, to end May 2027. Coordinating the Term of Appointments will provide consistency for Standards Committee, and streamline the process for seeking nominations to fulfil the positions in future years.
- 3.11 If supported, endorsement to extend the Term of Appointment of Councillor Andrew Grant will be sought by Full Council on 17 April 2024.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no particular sustainability impacts associated with this report, and in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Councils Members Scheme of Allowances makes provision for an allowance of £250per annum, to Parish/Town Council Representatives appointed to Standards Committee. Therefore all financial and resources provisions are met within current financial arrangements.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 There are no direct risks in relation to recommendations within this report. The Council currently have one appointed Parish/Council Representative, the report seeks the appointment of a second representative. Therefore this does not require a formal risk assessment and no changes have been made to the risk register.

7.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Parish Council Application.