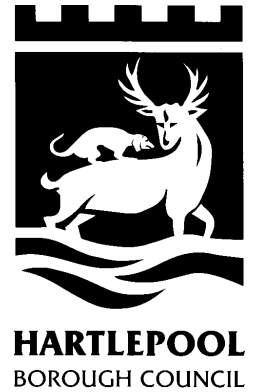


GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AGENDA



Wednesday 15th February, 2006

at 1:00 p.m.

in Committee Room 'A'

MEMBERS: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

Councillors Belcher, Flintoff, Hall, Henery, J Marshall, Shaw, Wallace, Wistow, Young.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 3. MINUTES**
 - 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14th December, 2005 (attached)
- 4. ITEMS FOR DECISION**
 - 4.1 Appointment of Local Authority Representatives to Serve on School Governing Bodies (Applications are exempt under para 1) – *Director of Children's Services*
- 5. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT**

6. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

7. ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

7.1 None

8. ANY OTHER CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

8.1 None

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

14th December 2005

Present:

Councillor: David Young (In the Chair)

Councillors: Bob Flintoff, Gordon Henery, John Marshall, and Gerald Wistow,

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.2; Councillor Robin Cook attended as substitute for Councillor Gerard Hall and Councillor Maureen Waller attended as substitute for Councillor Jane Shaw.

Also Present Councillor Derek Allison.

Officers: Tony Brown, Chief Solicitor
Anne Turner, Governor Support Officer
David Cosgrove, Principal Democratic Services officer
Jan Bentley, Democratic Services Officer

19. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Gerard Hall and Jane Shaw

20. Declarations of interest by members

None

21. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 26th October, 2005

Confirmed.

22. Review of Parish Electoral Arrangements (*Chief Solicitor*)

Purpose of report

To inform Members of the outcome of the second consultation stage of the review of parish electoral arrangements and to invite the Committee to finalise its recommendations to the Council

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

The Chief Solicitor outlined the issues contained in the report together with the revised draft proposals document, which had been attached as an appendix. He also advised Members that a closing date of 31st October had been given for representations on the draft proposals document.

Only one response had been received, namely a letter from the Chairman of the Headland Parish Council - Councillor Alison, who submitted an objection to the proposal. Councillor Allison considered that the proposal did not reflect the views expressed by local people, which had been reported to committee on 15th June 2005.

Councillor Allison, who was present at the meeting and with the Committee's approval, expressed concern on the proposal of a two-ward system on the Headland and recapped the history of the Parish Council together with the public's views on this proposal. Councillor Allison requested that the Committee reconsider their previous decision to maintain the status quo. Councillor Allison considered that the two ward system had never seemed to work. The issue had been raised at a number of public meetings arranged by the parish council in the past. The full parish area was smaller than the Borough Council Ward and it was considered that there was no reason for the divisiveness of two parish wards. Councillor Allison requested that the views of the Parish Council and the people of the parish be acknowledged by the borough council and the two parish wards be amalgamated into one.

Members of the Committee acknowledged the high level of public involvement in the Headland Parish Council. In light of the comments put forward on behalf of the Parish Council by Councillor Allison and the reported public responses to the consultation, the Committee supported the proposal that the Headland Parish Council be a one-ward Parish Council.

Decision

That the 'Review of the Electoral Arrangements for Parish Councils – Draft Proposals – August 2005' be approved for submission to Council subject

to an amendment to the proposals for Headland Parish Council to reflect that Council's wish that the parish be one ward as opposed to the present situation of two wards.

23 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

Minute No. 24 – Appointment of LA Representatives to Serve on School Governing Bodies - (namely information relating to a particular office holder, former office holder or applicant to become an office holder under the Council (para 1)

24. Appointment of Local Authority Representatives to Serve on School Governing Bodies (*Director of Children's Services*)

Purpose of report

To make recommendations for referral to the Children's Services Portfolio Holder in respect of the appointment of Local Authority (LA) representative governors to serve on school governing bodies where vacancies currently exist and on the expiry of terms of offices of governors in February 2006. A vacancy would also exist following the reconstitution of one governing body under the School Governance Constitution (England) Regulations 2003 in January 2006.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

Members were advised of applications invited from members of the public, elected Members and those governors whose terms of office were about to expire who were interested in serving as a LA representative governor on school governing bodies.

Details of the criteria for the selection of successful applicants were outlined in the report and a detailed schedule of vacancies, copies of each application (not for publication), appended for Members' information

Decision

That the recommendations for the appointments set out in the confidential section of the minutes, of LA Representative governors be referred to the Children's Services Portfolio Holder for approval.

COUNCILLOR DAVID YOUNG

CHAIRMAN

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

15th February 2006



Report of: Director of Children's Services

Subject: APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To request members of the General Purposes Committee to make recommendations to Cabinet, in respect of the appointment of LA representative governors to serve on school governing bodies, where vacancies currently exist and on the expiry of terms of offices of governors in February 2006.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Applications are invited from members of the general public, elected members and those governors whose term of office is about to expire and who are, interested in serving or wish to continue to serve as a LA representative governor on school governing bodies.
- 2.2 The following criteria were agreed by the Borough Council for the recruitment of LA representative governors in 2000. LA governors should be able to show:
- demonstrable interest in and commitment to education;
 - a desire to support the school concerned;
 - a commitment to attend regular meetings of the governing body (and committees as appropriate) and school functions generally;
 - good communication/interpersonal skills;
 - ability to work as part of a team;
 - a clearly expressed willingness to participate in the governor training programme.
- 2.3 A schedule (**Appendix A**) is attached setting out details of vacancies which currently exist for LA representative governors and those vacancies occurring in February 2006, together with applications

received in respect of the vacancies (**Appendix B**), **this item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely information relating to a particular office holder, former office holder or applicant to become an office holder under the Council (para 1).**

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members of the General Purposes Committee are requested to make recommendations for the appointment of LA representative governors to Cabinet.



**VACANCIES FOR
LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES
FEBRUARY, 2006**

**Contact Officer: Ann Turner
Tel. 523766**

Children's Services Department

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT
English Martyrs School	Vice – Mr. F. Rogers Deceased	Councillor R. Cook Mr. C. Akers	
Golden Flatts Primary School Mrs. K. Hird Councillor C. Hill Councillor M. W. Turner	Councillor C. Hill (Term of office expires 28.2.06)	Councillor C. Hill	
Barnard Grove Primary School Mrs. D. Stonehouse Mr. J. M. Kay	1 Vacancy	No interest expressed	
Jesmond Road Primary School Councillor J. Shaw Mrs. D. Adamson	Vacancy Vice Mr. M. Sparks Resigned	No interest expressed	
Lynnfield Primary School Councillor C. Richardson	Vice Mrs. L. Peek Resigned	Mr. A. Armstrong	
Dyke House School Councillor J. Lauderdale Mrs. M. Sneddon	2 Vacancies	Mr. P. King Mrs. S. Sharpe	

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT
Rossmere Primary School Mrs. D. Stonehouse Mrs. M. Smith	Vacancy Vice Mrs. L. Hodgson	No interest expressed	
Seaton Carew Nursery	1 Vacancy Vice – Mr. S. Hindhaugh	Mr. L. Brown	
Springwell School Mrs. E. Parkinson	Vacancy Vice Mr. C. Rowntree Declined appointment	No interest expressed	
St. Cuthbert's RC Primary School	Vacancy Vice Mrs. D. Adamson	Councillor F. London	
Ward Jackson Primary School Mr. M. Ruddock	Vacancy Vice Councillor R. Payne Removed non-attendance	No interest expressed	
Fens Primary School Ms. A. Lilley Councillor A. Preece Councillor Mrs. P. Rayner	Vacancy Vice Mrs. A. Lilley – term of office expires 27.02.06	Mrs. A. Lilley	
Greatham CE Primary School Mrs. P. Brotherton	Vacancy Vice Mrs. Y. Davis resigned	No interest expressed	