

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME

**GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE AGENDA**



Friday 20 March 2009

at 9.00am

in

Committee Room A, Civic Centre

MEMBERS: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

Councillors Akers-Belcher, Atkinson, Flintoff, Griffin, G Lilley, Morris, Shaw, Sutheran and 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 13 February 2009.
- 4. ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION / ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**
 - 4.1 Appointment Of Local Authority Representatives To Serve On School Governing Bodies – *Director of Children's Services*
 - 4.2 Review of Polling Places – *Chief Solicitor*
- 5. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT**

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

13 February 2009

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillors: Bob Flintoff (in the Chair)
Stephen Akers-Belcher, Reuben Atkinson, Sheila Griffin,
Geoff Lilley, George Morris and Lilian Sutheran

Officers: Peter Devlin, Chief Solicitor
Christine Armstrong, Central Services Manager
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

20. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor Jane Shaw.

21. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

22. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2008

Confirmed.

23. Council Elections by Thirds *(Chief Solicitor)*

The Chief Solicitor referred to previous reports submitted to this Committee in relation to Council Elections by Thirds and, in particular, relating to the approximate costs of consulting with registered electors on the most appropriate electoral scheme. At the meeting of General Purposes Committee on 22 August 2008 Members discussed the additional costs that could be incurred at an "all out" election and asked for a breakdown of the costs of both types of election. In addition to the costs identified in the report additional expenditure of around £27,000 would be incurred in respect of staffing, election staff training, count staff and electoral participation, (advertising and information to electors). In addition consultation with other Councils who currently hold "all out" elections had shown an average of 3-4 by-elections during the intervening period. The average cost of each by-election would be £6,000 depending upon the number of polling stations used.

With regard to Cabinet discussions, Cabinet endorsed the view of the Committee that any consultation “needed to reach everyone”. Consequently, on the likely expenditure of costs, the pertinent indication of costs related to that which involved consulting with “all electors” approximately 69,000 individuals. However, Cabinet were concerned at the level of costs associated with such an exercise when the existing system of election “by thirds” did not appear to warrant change

Consequently on 11th December 2008 Council considered the recommendations of the Committee and an earlier Motion on Notice which had come before the Council in February 2008 and led to the original referral to the Committee. Following a debate it was moved and seconded that no further action be taken. A recorded vote was taken with 28 members voting in favour of the motion and 10 against.

Decision

That the report be noted

24. Review of Polling Places *(Chief Solicitor)*

The Chief Solicitor advised that under Section 18 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 local authorities are required to review their polling districts and polling places on a 4 yearly cycle. The last review was agreed by Council in December 2007 meaning the next scheduled review must be completed by December 2011. However under the act each Council is required to keep their polling districts and places under review during the intervening period. Details of the existing polling districts and places were appended to the report. There were 57 polling places, 5 of which might not be available for use at the combined Mayoral and European elections to be held in June 2009. Details of the proposed alternatives were appended to the report.

During the discussion which followed members asked whether all the proposed venues met the necessary accessibility criteria. The Central Services Manager confirmed that site visits had been undertaken to all those venues referred to and all were felt suitable. In terms of the Burn Valley Ward members suggested that consideration be given to reverting back to usage of the Baptist Church as a polling station rather than the proposed usage of the Epilepsy Outlook shop on Oxford Road. It was also suggested that approaches be made regarding the forthcoming Orwell Walk development. The Central Services Manager advised that similar approaches had been made to Hartfields but while the owners had been agreement the residents had turned down all requests. However the owners and residents of the new care home at Wynyard had indicated they would be happy to be used as a polling station. A four-year usage term had been agreed with Housing Hartlepool in order to provide a sense

of continuity. The Chief Solicitor to investigate the suitability of all suggested venues and bring a further report on this issue to the next meeting.

Decision

That further investigation be undertaken into the suitability of venues highlighted by members being used as alternative polling places.

The meeting concluded at 10.20 am

CHAIRMAN

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GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

20 March 2009



Report of: Director of Children's Services

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

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update members of the General Purposes Committee in respect of vacancies that currently exist and which will exist in the coming Autumn school term 2009 for Local Authority representative governors, and to request members to make recommendations to the Children's Services Portfolio Holder in respect of the appointment of Local Authority representative governors to serve on school governing bodies.

2. BACKGROUND

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.

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.

A schedule (**Appendix A**) is attached setting out details of vacancies which currently exist for LA representative governors and the vacancy occurring in the coming Autumn term 2008, 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, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, information relating to any individual (para 1)**

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Contact Officer:

Ann Turner
Governor Support Officer
Children's Services Department
Telephone 523766
ann.turner@hartlepool.gov.uk

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Children's Services In Hartlepool

Every Child Matters

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

20th MARCH, 2009

Contact Officer: Ann Turner
01429 523766

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Barnard Grove Primary School Councillor R Cook Mr J M Kay	1 vacancy	No interest expressed	
Clavinging Primary School Councillor T Fleming Councillor R Cook	1 vacancy Vice Councillor Mrs S Griffin	No interest expressed	
Fens Primary School Councillor Mrs A Lilley Mrs P Rayner Councillor A Preece	Councillor A Preece Term of office end 14 th August 2009	Councillor A Preece	
Grange Primary School Councillor R Flintoff Mr H D Smith	1 vacancy	No interest expressed	
Holy Trinity CE Aided Primary School Councillor M W Turner	Councillor M W Turner Term of office expires 3 rd September 2009	Councillor M W Turner	

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Kingsley Primary School Mr J Vale	2 vacancies Vice Mrs G Hanson Mr K Clark	Mrs J Brough Mrs R Price Councillor S Akers-Belcher	
Lynnfield Primary School Councillor C Richardson Councillor C J Simmons	1 vacancy Vice Councillor V Tumilty	No interest expressed	
Ow ton Manor Primary School Mrs J Thompson Mr J Vale Mrs S Hayes	1 vacancy Vice Mrs P Rayner	No interest Expressed	
Rossmere Primary School Mrs. M. Smith Councillor Mrs A Marshall	Vacancy Vice Councillor M Johnson Deceased	No interest expressed	
St Aidan's CE Aided Memorial Primary School	Vacancy Vice Mrs B Pearson	Mr A S Lee	
St Helen's Primary School Miss C Lamb	3 vacancies	Mr. J. Ibbotson	

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Ward Jackson Primary School		Mrs A Darby	
Mrs O Little	Vacancy Vice		
Councillor J Brash	PC Hetherington		
West Park Primary School		No interest expressed	
Mrs S A Kirby	1 vacancy		
Mr MW Ward			
Dyke House School	Councillor J Lauderdale	Councillor J Lauderdale	
Councillor J Lauderdale	Term of office expires		
	11 th October 2009		



Children's Services In Hartlepool

Every Child Matters

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Mrs O Little	Vacancy Vice		
Councillor J Brash	PC Hetherington		
West Park Primary School		No interest expressed	
Mrs S A Kirby	1 vacancy		
Mr MW Ward			
Dyke House School	Councillor J Lauderdale	Councillor J Lauderdale	
Councillor J Lauderdale	Term of office expires		
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SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Ward Jackson Primary School		Mrs A Darby	
Mrs O Little	Vacancy Vice		
Councillor J Brash	PC Hetherington		
West Park Primary School		No interest expressed	
Mrs S A Kirby	1 vacancy		
Mr MW Ward			
Dyke House School	Councillor J Lauderdale	Councillor J Lauderdale	
Councillor J Lauderdale	Term of office expires 11 th October 2009		



Children's Services In Hartlepool

Every Child Matters

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

20th MARCH, 2009

Contact Officer: Ann Turner
01429 523766

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Barnard Grove Primary School	1 vacancy	No interest expressed	
Councillor R Cook			
Mr J M Kay			
Claving Primary School	1 vacancy Vice Councillor Mrs S Griffin	No interest expressed	
Councillor T Fleming			
Councillor R Cook			
Fens Primary School	Councillor A Preece Term of office end 14 th August 2009	Councillor A Preece	
Councillor Mrs A Lilley			
Mrs P Rayner			
Councillor A Preece			
Grange Primary School	1 vacancy	No interest expressed	
Councillor R Flintoff			
Mr H D Smith			
Holy Trinity CE Aided Primary School	Councillor M W Turner Term of office expires 3 rd September 2009	Councillor M W Turner	
Councillor M W Turner			

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Kingsley Primary School Mr J Vale	2 vacancies Vice Mrs G Hanson Mr K Clark	Mrs J Brough Mrs R Price Councillor S Akers-Belcher	
Lynnfield Primary School Councillor C Richardson Councillor C J Simmons	1 vacancy Vice Councillor V Tumilty	No interest expressed	
Ow ton Manor Primary School Mrs J Thompson Mr J Vale Mrs S Hayes	1 vacancy Vice Mrs P Rayner	No interest Expressed	
Rossmere Primary School Mrs. M. Smith Councillor Mrs A Marshall	Vacancy Vice Councillor M Johnson Deceased	No interest expressed	
St Aidan's CE Aided Memorial Primary School	Vacancy Vice Mrs B Pearson	Mr A S Lee	
St Helen's Primary School Miss C Lamb	3 vacancies	Mr. J. Ibbotson	

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GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

20 March 2009



Report of: Chief Solicitor

Subject: REVIEW OF POLLING PLACES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider, review and agree the suggestions for alternative polling places to be used at future elections.

2. BACKGROUND

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4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 An access audit has been undertaken at all proposed locations to ensure that these buildings are fully accessible.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That Members consider and agree that -
- a) As the identified building for Polling District BC is outside the ward, the polling district becomes the polling place with Oxford Road Baptist Church being identified as the polling station to replace the ORB Centre.
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7. CONTACT OFFICER

Christine Armstrong - Central Services Officer
Chief Executive's Department
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Telephone Number: 01429 523016
E-mail – christine.armstrong@hartlepool.gov.uk

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*** Changes are indicated in bold and italics**

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Mar 2009

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

20 March 2009



Report of: Chief Solicitor

Subject: REVIEW OF POLLING PLACES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

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Mar 2009

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

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