

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY, 2023

PRESENT: Councillor J Lewis in the Chair

Councillors D Blackburn, D Cohen,
M Harland, H Hayden, A Khan and J Pryor

25 **Appeals against refusal of inspection of documents**

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

26 **Exempt Information - possible exclusion of the press and public**

There were no resolutions to exclude the public.

27 **Late items**

There were no late items.

28 **Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

29 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors S Arif, A Carter, D Coupar and J Lennox.

Councillor M Harland was in attendance as substitute.

30 **Minutes of the last meeting - 14 December 2022**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday, 14 December 2022 be approved as a correct record.

31 **Approval of the Pay Policy Statement 2023/24**

The report of the Chief Officer, Human Resources set out the Council's Annual Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24 (Appendix A). This was required under the Localism Act 2011 and must be annually approved by Full Council before 31 March each year.

Jessica Dolphin, Human Resources Service Manager and Claire Matson, Head of Human Resources were in attendance to present the report.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the contents of the Pay Policy Statement 2023/24 at Appendix A and the content as set out in Appendix B be noted.
- (2) That the Full Council be recommend to:

- (a) Approve the Pay Policy Statement for the 2023/24 financial year as attached in Appendix A.
- (b) Resolve that the data in the Pay Policy Statement be updated once national pay negotiations for the 2023/24 financial year are concluded.
- (c) Note that the Chief Officer (HR) has existing delegated authority to make any necessary adjustments to the Council's pay scales arising from nationally agreed pay awards.

32 Community Governance Review of Thorp Arch Parish Council

The report of the Chief Officer, Elections and Regulatory reminded Members of the approval to carry out a Community Governance Review of Thorp Arch Parish Council. The Parish Council had requested an increase in the number of Councillors from 5 to 6. A consultation exercise had taken place as part of the review process and the report set out the outcome of the consultation and recommendation of the Electoral Working Group.

John Mulcahay, Chief Officer Elections and Regulatory and Susanna Benton, Head of Electoral Services were in attendance to present the report.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That it be recommended to Full Council that the number of Councillors for Thorp Arch Parish Council be increased from 5 to 6.
- (2) That the change is implemented in time to be effective for the parish Council elections on 4 May 2023.

33 Community Governance Review of Ledston Parish Council

The report of the Chief Officer, Elections and Regulatory informed Members of the outcome of the Community Governance Review of Ledston Parish Council.

The review had been requested by the Parish Council which had been subsequently approved by General Purposes Committee and a 5 week consultation period followed which ended on 19 January 2023. Responses to the consultation were appended to the report.

John Mulcahay, Chief Officer Elections and Regulatory and Susanna Benton, Head of Electoral Services were in attendance for this item.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the responses to the consultation period be noted.
- (2) That the abolition of Ledston Parish Council be recommended to Full Council.

34 Appointment of Additional Independent Person

The report of the City Solicitor presented the Committee with a recommendation of a Member Panel in relation to the appointment of an Independent Person.

Five candidates had applied for the position and on the basis of their written application and interview, the Panel agreed to recommend the appointment of Mrs Claire McManus as the Independent Person for a period of two years beginning on 1 April 2023 with an option to extend for a further two years.

Nicole Walker, Head of Service, attended the meeting to present the report.

RESOLVED –

That it be recommended to Full Council that Claire McManus be appointed for a period of up to two years, with an option to extend by a further two years, subject to agreement between the Council and Mrs McManus, pursuant to s.28 Localism Act 2011.