

Abbots Ripton Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mrs Samantha Sharp
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Minutes of the Meeting of Abbots Ripton Parish Council¹ held on Tuesday 27th June 2023 at 7.30pm at: Abbots Ripton Village Hall, The Green, Abbots Ripton, PE28 2PF

Present; John Hemsley – Chairman (JH), Steve Brown – Vice Chairman (SB), Darren Miller (DB), Geoff Richardson (GR)

Candidates for Co-option Victoria Wilson and Matthew Fido, both residents of Abbots Ripton.

1 member of the public

Members: 6 Quorum: 3

MINUTES

0016/06-23 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Apology received from Samantha Sharp – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to Abbots Ripton Parish Council. Apology received from Councillor Colin Miller

0017/06-23 To receive Disclosable Interests Declarations.

No disclosable interests were declared

0018/06-23 Co-Option of Councillors (1 Vacancy)

Following the resignation of Councillor John Leaver and no Bi-Election being called, the Council are now permitted to co-opt a member onto the Council.

Two candidates expressed interest in joining the Parish Council following the posting of vacancy notice and were requested to attend the meeting and present their case for membership to the Council members present.

Matthew Fido
Victoria Wilson

Both residents of Abbots Ripton

The Co-option process adopted was as follows:

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The co-option process will be determined in a public session of Council and a specific agenda item will be set aside for applicants to make a brief, verbal presentation to Council in support of their application. A maximum of three minutes will be allowed per candidate.

Members may ask questions of the candidates following their presentations.

Following the conclusion of all presentations, Members present at the meeting will proceed to the vote in accordance with proportional voting. Voting will be by individual candidate in alphabetical order and each Member will have one vote each

If a candidate is a relative of a Parish Councillor, that Councillor should declare a prejudicial interest and withdraw from the meeting

A successful candidate must have received an absolute majority vote by those Councillors present. In the event of a tied vote and in accordance with Standing Orders, the Chair may exercise his/her right to use a casting vote

The Council is not obliged to fill all vacancies and following a vote, candidates may not necessarily be co-opted on to the Council even if this is to fill a single vacancy. The Council will take steps to advertise for further co-options.

Successfully co-opted candidates become Councillors in their own right, with immediate effect (subject to the signing of the declaration of acceptance of office), and are no different to any other member

The co-opted members will be asked to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office to agree to be bound by the Council's adopted Code of Conduct within 14 days of co-option. They may then take their seat at Council and will be appointed to working groups or committees and as a representative to local organisations.

Co-opted members are required to complete a Register of Interests Form within 28 days and this is held by Huntingdonshire District Council.

A presentation was made by Victoria Wilson and Matthew Fido.

Victoria Wilson received 3 votes

Matthew Fido received 1 vote

It was resolved that Victoria Wilson would be co-opted onto the Abbots Ripton Parish Council. The declaration of acceptance was signed by the co-opted member and will be submitted to the monitoring officer of Huntingdonshire District Council within 14 days.

Meeting Closed - 1945