

SELECTION & CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

16TH JANUARY 2014

CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

Further to the Meeting of this Committee held on the 7th May 2013, there is a need to update on some minor issues arising from the report 'Background and Principles of Political Balance and Administrative Structure'.

With regard to the Parish Forum, the Leader has signified his wish that the seats originally allocated to himself and Councillor Claughton on behalf of the Conservative Group should be re-allocated to Councillors Mrs Bell and a Councillor TBC. Councillor Mrs Bell is also proposed to be appointed Chairman of the Parish Forum with the Councillor TBC as Vice-Chairman. The ex-officio position previously referred to should therefore be removed.

This will necessitate some minor amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Parish Forum (page 87 of the Constitution refers) as shown at Appendix 1 to this report.

In addition, with regard to Committee Membership, it should be noted that the Labour Group's seat on the Education & Vocational Skills Advisory Committee has been passed to Councillor Britcher (this was previously held by Councillor Chilton).

Recommended:

That

- (i) Councillors Mrs Bell and a Councillor TBC take the Conservative Group's seats on the Parish Forum.**
- (ii) Councillor Mrs Bell be appointed Chairman of the Parish Forum with a Councillor TBC as Vice-Chairman.**
- (iii) The Terms of Reference of the Parish Forum be amended accordingly as outlined at Appendix 1 to the report.**
- (iv) Councillor Britcher take the Labour Group's seat on the Education & Vocational Skills Advisory Committee.**

(Deletions are shown struck through and additions in italics).

Parish Forum

Membership: ~~The Leader of the Council together with the Leaders of Groups upon the Council, plus one non-voting ex officio Member,~~ *The appropriate Portfolio Holder plus one Member from each of the Political Groups on the Council and 2 Representatives each from Parish Councils within the Borough the Tenterden Town Council and Urban Community Forums*

Terms of Reference

To consider and advise the Cabinet (Executive) upon:-

1. Discussions with Parish Council and Urban Community Forum representatives upon issues of common concern with a view to achieving a better understanding of shared aspirations and, to identify ways in which joint working may be introduced for the betterment of communities as a whole.

Delegations

None.

Notes

1. To include the ~~Leader of the Council and~~ appropriate Portfolio Holders.
2. Public attendance pursuant to the Access to Information Procedure Rules as contained in Part 4 of this Constitution will only be permitted if agreed in advance of the meeting between the external representatives and the Chairman of the Forum.
3. The views of the Forum are to be reported via a Chairman's report, which will be prepared by the Proper Officer, to the Cabinet (Executive) and/or Service Manager.
4. The Forum will meet 4 times a year.