

**MINUTES OF AN EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF CHOLMONDELEY & CHORLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT CORONATIONAL HALL, BICKLEY, CHOLMONDELEY ON 23 OCTOBER 2018**

**PRESENT:** Councillor A D Fennell In the Chair  
Councillor C Hopley Councillor S Langton  
Councillor P Probin

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors J Clarke, R Probin and J Moody

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**45 APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**

Members who had a disclosable pecuniary interest in the proceedings of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group had each completed an application for a dispensation, and the Parish Council was asked to approve those dispensations.

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011 (the Act) new arrangements were introduced to regulate the conduct of members of local authorities, including parish councils.

Following the abolition of the Standards Board, the Act introduced a new interest which must be registered (and declared), namely a 'disclosable pecuniary interest' (DPI), which related to employment, office, trade, profession or vocation for profit or gain, sponsorship, contracts, beneficial interests in land, licences to occupy land, corporate tenancies and securities. Failure to register such an interest is a criminal offence (s.30 of the Act).

S.33 of the Localism Act 2011 permitted a local council to grant a dispensation to an elected Member or co-opted Member to allow them to participate in a discussion or to vote on a matter in which they had a DPI. Requests must be made in writing to the Council's Proper Officer (ie the Clerk). Without a dispensation, a Member's participation in the discussion or voting on a matter in which they had a DPI was a criminal offence under s.34 of the Act.

Members who were tenants of the Cholmondeley Estate had each been invited to complete an application for dispensation. The Parish Council was asked to approve the dispensations and this would allow those Members with a DPI to participate fully in the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group inaugural meeting which followed at the close of this meeting; and also all future meetings of the Steering Group.

**RESOLVED:** (a) That a dispensation be granted to Councillors C Hopley, S Langton, P Probin and P Winward in respect of the Neighbourhood Plan process in respect of their individual tenancies of the Cholmondeley Estate; and

(b) That the requests be approved on the basis that having regard to all the relevant circumstances, the Parish Council considered that without the dispensation, the number of persons prohibited from participating in discussion on the Neighbourhood Plan (whether at the Steering Group or in Parish Council meetings) would be so great a proportion of the Council as to impede the transaction of the business.

.....Chairman