

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**PARISH PARTNERSHIP PANEL**

**14 November 2013**

**Report of the Director of Central Services & Monitoring Officer**

**Part 1- Public**

**Matters for Decision**

**1 JOINT STANDARDS COMMITTEE – APPOINTMENT OF TOWN AND PARISH REPRESENTATIVES**

**To consider the appointment of the Town and Parish representatives to serve on the Joint Standards Committee for the municipal year 2013/ 14.**

**1.1 Introduction**

1.1.1 At the meeting of Council on 16 July 2013 it was agreed that a Joint Standards Committee be established with all Town and Parish Councils within the Borough.

1.1.2 The Joint Committee will be comprised of 13 Borough Councillors together with 6 Parish and Town representatives (to be appointed on a rotational basis drawn from a pool of Parish and Town representatives). It was agreed that the Parish and Town representatives shall be nominated by the Parish Partnership Panel on an annual basis.

1.1.3 Following the July meeting of Council I wrote to all Town and Parish Clerks to invite their nominations.

**1.2 Nominations**

1.2.1 I have received the following nominations :-

Addington Parish Council – Cllr Allan Newby

Aylesford Parish Council – Cllr Dennis Elvy

Borough Green Parish Council – Cllr Steve Perry

Burham Parish Council – Cllr Bill Stead

Ditton Parish Council – Cllr John Beadle

Mereworth Parish Council – Cllr Jon Regan

Plaxtol Parish Council – Cllr Marius Carboni

Snodland Parish Council – Cllr Alan Keeley

- 1.2.2 6 members of the pool shall be appointed as voting members of the Joint Standards Committee for each meeting. The most straightforward way to administer these appointments will be to appoint on an alphabetical basis e.g. for the first meeting the representatives from Addington to Mereworth shall be appointed, for the second the representatives from Aylesford to Plaxtol etc.

### **1.3 Legal Implications**

- 1.3.1 A general power for local authorities to discharge their functions through a joint committee is provided under sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972.

### **1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

- 1.4.1 Not applicable.

### **1.5 Risk Assessment**

- 1.5.1 It is important that a robust system exists for the promotion and maintenance of high standards of conduct. The absence of such a framework will lower public confidence in the democratic process. It is considered that the creation of a joint standards committee represents an effective way of maintaining high standards of conduct throughout the Borough.

### **1.6 Equality Impact Assessment**

- 1.6.1 See 'Screening for equality impacts' table at end of report

### **1.7 Recommendations**

- 1.7.1 It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Parish and Town Councillors listed at paragraph 1.2.1 above are appointed to the pool of Parish and Town representatives on the Joint Standards Committee for the municipal year 2013/14.

Background papers:

contact: Adrian Stanfield

Nil

Adrian Stanfield  
Director of Central Services & Monitoring Officer

<b>Screening for equality impacts:</b>		
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Explanation of impacts</b>
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	The decision will not adversely impact any group.
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality?	N/A	
c. What steps are you taking to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		