

# TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

## COUNCIL

11 July 2023

### Report of the Director of Central Services and Deputy Chief Executive

#### Part 1- Public

#### Matters For Decision

#### **1 APPOINTMENTS TO PARISH PARTNERSHIP PANEL AND TONBRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM**

**At the statutory annual meeting of Council on 17 May 2023 appointments were made to the Parish Partnership Panel and Tonbridge Community Forum. After that meeting, a number of changes in respect of County Members are required.**

#### **1.1 Parish Partnership Panel**

- 1.1.1 Councillor Sarah Hudson was appointed to the Parish Partnership Panel as the Borough Councillor representing East Peckham, West Peckham, Mereworth and Wateringbury.
- 1.1.2 However, Councillor Hudson has an automatic appointment to the Panel as a County Councillor covering a parished area of the borough.
- 1.1.3 Following an Overview and Scrutiny Committee review into the Parish Partnership Panel in 2021, it was recommended that Members who were both Borough and Parish Councillors could not sit on the Panel in both capacities. This recommendation was supported and approved by Council on 26 October 2021.
- 1.1.4 For reasons of consistency this approach should also be adopted for those Members who are Borough and County Councillors. It is, therefore, recommended that Councillor Matt Boughton be appointed to the Parish Partnership Panel instead of Councillor Sarah Hudson.
- 1.1.5 As a consequence of Councillor Boughton being appointed to the Parish Partnership Panel there is a requirement to nominate a replacement substitute member. Councillor Dave Davis has been nominated. A revised substitute list for the Parish Partnership Panel is attached at Annex 1.

## **1.2 Tonbridge Community Forum**

Councillor Mark Hood was appointed to the Tonbridge Community Forum as a Borough Councillor representing a ward in Tonbridge.

- 1.2.1 However, Councillor Hood has an automatic appointment to the Panel as a County Councillor.
- 1.2.2 The Tonbridge Community Forum (as the Tonbridge Forum) was also part of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee review in October 2021 and whilst there were no recommendations in respect of Members who were both Borough and County Councillors, for consistency the same approach should be applied to the Forum as to the Parish Partnership Panel.
- 1.2.3 This means that Councillor Hood attends the Tonbridge Community Forum as a County Councillor.
- 1.2.4 Consequently, the membership of the Tonbridge Community Forum is 13 Borough Councillors and not 14 as set out in the Constitution. This is because all Members who represent Tonbridge and Hildenborough wards already sit on the Tonbridge Community Forum. This position may change following future Borough and County elections and no changes to the Constitution regarding composition of the Tonbridge Community Forum are recommended.

## **1.3 Legal Implications**

- 1.3.1 The matters raised in this report are considered to routine, uncontroversial or not legally complex and a legal opinion has not been sought on these proposals

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

- 1.4.1 N/A

## **1.5 Risk Assessment**

- 1.5.1 N/A

## **1.6 Equality Impact Assessment**

- 1.6.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

## **1.7 Policy Considerations**

- 1.7.1 Community

## **1.8 Recommendations**

- 1.8.1 That Councillor Matt Boughton be appointed to the Parish Partnership Panel with immediate effect;

- 1.8.2 That Councillor Dave Davis be appointed a substitute member for the Parish Partnership Panel with immediate effect; and
- 1.8.3 That the position in respect of the membership for the Tonbridge Community Forum, detailed in 1.2.5 of the report, until the next Borough or County Elections be noted.

Background papers:

Nil

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