

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL

09 July 2024

Report of the Director of Central Services and Deputy Chief Executive

Part 1- Public

Matters For Decision

1 APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEES, ADVISORY PANELS AND OTHER GROUPS 2024/25

As a consequence of the recent by-election for Judd Ward, there are a number of changes required to the membership of committees, scrutiny select committees, advisory panels and other groups for the remainder of the municipal year. Council is asked to approve membership in accordance with the Terms of Reference and delegated responsibilities set out in the Constitution.

- 1.1.1 In order for the Council to conduct its business, formal appointments are required for each Committee to reflect the determined political balance arrangements.
- 1.1.2 Details of the Borough Council's current political balance arrangements are set out elsewhere on the agenda.
- 1.1.3 The functions for which Committees have delegated responsibility are set out in Part 3 of the Constitution.

1.2 Area 1 Planning Committee

- 1.2.1 The vacancy left by former Cllr G Hines will be filled by newly elected Cllr S Pilgrim representing Judd Ward. However, until mandatory training on planning matters has been attended Cllr Pilgrim will not be able to vote on any matters.

1.3 Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee

- 1.3.1 It is recommended that newly elected Cllr Pilgrim fill the vacancy left by former Cllr G Hines for the remainder of the municipal year.

1.4 Tonbridge Community Forum

- 1.4.1 It is recommended that newly elected Cllr Pilgrim fill the vacancy on the Tonbridge Community Forum left by former Cllr G Hines and attend as an ordinary member for the remainder of the municipal year.

1.4.2 There is also a requirement to appoint a new Chair for the Tonbridge Community Forum. If nominations are provided as soon as possible after the meeting, the appointment will be considered by Full Council at its next meeting in October. In the absence of a formal appointment, the current Vice-Chair (Cllr D King) will Chair the next meeting of the Tonbridge Community Forum scheduled for Monday 2 September 2024.

1.5 Substitute Members

1.5.1 The list of substitute Members agreed at Annual Council on 14 May 2024 also needs to be updated to reflect the result of the Judd Ward by-election. For convenience, it is recommended that newly elected Cllr Pilgrim fill the vacancies created by the resignation of former Cllr G Hines and serve as a substitute member on the following:

- Audit Committee
- General Purposes Committee
- Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Finance, Regeneration and Property Scrutiny Select Committee
- Joint Transportation Board

1.6 Legal Implications

1.6.1 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. However, there is a requirement for committees of the Borough Council to be politically balanced where required to be.

1.7 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.7.1 There are no significant costs or budget growth associated with these recommendations although there will be a Special Responsibility Allowance for the new Chair of the Tonbridge Community Forum.

1.8 Risk Assessment

1.8.1 N/A

1.9 Equality Impact Assessment

1.9.1 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.

1.10 Recommendations

- 1) That the appointment of Councillor Pilgrim to the Area 1 Planning Committee be approved;
- 2) That the appointment of Councillor Pilgrim to the Communities and Environment Services Scrutiny Select Committee for the remainder of the municipal year be approved;
- 3) That the appointment of Councillor Pilgrim to the Tonbridge Community Forum be noted;
- 4) That the arrangement for appointing a Chair of the Tonbridge Community Forum, as set out in 1.4.2 be approved; and
- 5) That the appointments to the substitute members list be amended as detailed in 1.5.1.

Background papers:

Nil

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