

Agenda



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A meeting of the **Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee**

will be held on Monday 15 February 2021 at 7.00pm

as a

Virtual Meeting

To watch this virtual meeting, follow this link to the council's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTj2pCic8vzucpzlaSWE3UQ>

Members of the Committee:

Councillors

Ron Batstone (Chair)

Paul Barrow

Alison Jenner

Sarah Medley (Vice-Chair)

Mike Pighills

Janet Shelley

Alternative formats of this publication are available on request. These include large print, Braille, audio, email and easy read. For this or any other special requirements (such as access facilities) please contact the officer named on this agenda. Please give as much notice as possible before the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Reed".

Margaret Reed
Head of Legal and Democratic

Agenda

Open to the public including the press

1. Apologies for absence

To record apologies for absence and the attendance of substitute members.

2. Minutes

(Pages 4 - 9)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2019 - attached.

3. Declarations of interest

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

4. Public participation

To receive any questions or statements from members of the public that have registered to speak.

5. Urgent business and chair's announcements

To receive notification of any matters which the chair determines should be considered as urgent business and the special circumstances which have made the matters urgent, and to receive any announcements from the chair.

6. Temporary changes to polling stations due to Covid 19

(Pages 10 - 14)

To consider the report of the head of legal and democratic – attached.

7. District wide community governance review

At its meeting on 22 October 2019, the committee considered, and agreed, a proposal to commence a district wide community governance review in Spring 2020 to allow for any changes to be implemented for the 2023 elections. The committee requested that officers submit a timetable for the review.

Before work began on the review, it became clear that the government intended to publish a Devolution White Paper which was expected to set out proposals for local government reform including unitary authorities. A community governance review would therefore have been premature. The current Covid pandemic has also impacted on resources to undertake such a review. A Devolution and Local Recovery White Paper is now expected

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in Autumn 2021.

Officers therefore propose bringing forward a timetable to the committee once there is greater clarity on the government's proposals. The committee is asked to endorse this approach.