

MTC Full Council 19.5.20

Report No 8- Cllr Recruitment and Elections

1. Pre Covid 19 conditions the Council was carrying x1 Councillor vacancy for Co-option, having not appointed to all vacancies in the last recruitment process.
2. At the end of February two more vacancies arose which were subsequently called for election. This election was due to run on the 23.4.20.
3. On the 9.4.20 Wiltshire Council Elections team notified the Council that this election was to not run due to 'The Local Government and Police and Crime Commissioner (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections and Referendums) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 SI 395 2020)', where it was laid out on 8.4.20 with regards to by-elections and neighbourhood planning referendums it stating:

'All local government, Police and Crime Commissioner, Mayoral and London Assembly by-elections will be deferred to 6 May 2021'.

This means that there will not be a poll to fill the casual vacancy and that it will be filled at the poll at the ordinary four-yearly cycle elections in 2021.

4. Wiltshire Council Elections team advised the vacancy which can already be co-opted to, can still recruited for, and reconfirmed that that the two vacancies where an election was requested cannot be co-opted for.
5. On the 27.4.20 Wiltshire Council were notified that Cllr Wallace resigned her position as Councillor, and by return they instructed us the no further action could be taken at this time on this vacancy, and that they would advised us when we can proceed on this.
6. The Government has indicated that the situation will be kept under review and if safe to do so, further legislation will be laid that will permit by-elections and referendums sooner than 6 May 2021.
7. The Council are asked to consider if they wish to proceed in the advertisement of the single co-option vacancy and instruct the Town Clerk accordingly.

Richard Spencer-Williams – Town Clerk

