



The Arc
High Street
Clowne
S43 4JY

To: Chair & Members of the Council

Monday, 12 July 2021

Contact: Nicola Calver
Telephone: 01246 217753
Email: nicola.calver@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

COUNCIL

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Bolsover District Council to be held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Wednesday, 21st July, 2021 at 10:00 hours.

Register of Members' Interests - Members are reminded that a Member must within 28 days of becoming aware of any changes to their Disclosable Pecuniary Interests provide written notification to the Authority's Monitoring Officer.

You will find the contents of the agenda itemised from page 2 onwards.

Yours faithfully



Solicitor to the Council & Monitoring Officer

Bolsover
District Council

We speak your language
Polish **Mówimy Twoim językiem**
Slovak **Rozprávame Vaším jazykom**
Chinese **我们会说你的语言**

**If you require this agenda in large print
or another format please call us on 01246 217753**

If you require an adjustment to enable you to participate in or access the meeting please contact the Governance Team at least 72 hours before the meeting starts.

COUNCIL AGENDA

*Wednesday, 21 July 2021 at 10:00 hours taking place in the Council Chamber, The Arc,
Clowne*

Item No.	PART 1 – OPEN ITEMS	Page No.(s)
1.	Apologies For Absence	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
	Members should declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and Non Statutory Interest as defined by the Members' Code of Conduct in respect of:	
	a) any business on the agenda	
	b) any urgent additional items to be considered	
	c) any matters arising out of those items	
	and if appropriate, withdraw from the meeting at the relevant time.	
3.	Chair's Announcements	
	To receive any announcements that the Chair of the Council may desire to lay before the meeting.	
4.	Minutes	TO FOLLOW
	To approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on 26 th May 2021 and 23 rd June 2021.	
5.	Questions from the Public	NONE
	In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 8, to allow members of the public to ask questions about the Council's activities for a period of up to fifteen minutes. A question may only be asked if notice of seven clear working days has been given.	
6.	Questions from Members	NONE
	In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9, to allow Members to ask questions about Council activities. A question may only be asked if notice of seven clear working days has been given.	
7.	Motions	5 - 10
	In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10, to consider motions on notice from Members.	
	1) Motion submitted by the Leader of the Council (Pets as Prizes)	

- 2) Motion submitted by Councillor Clive Moesby (Orgreave)
- 3) Motion submitted by the Deputy Leader of the Council (GMB Campaign)
- 4) Motion submitted by Councillor Peter Roberts (Travel Expenses)
- 5) Motion submitted by Councillor Tom Kirkham (Glapwell)

8. Debate of Petition

To debate the following petition in accordance with 7.8 of the Petition Scheme for a maximum period of 30 minutes:

We, the undersigned, petition Bolsover District Council to protect the wildlife and mature trees at the top of Park Avenue in Glapwell from development. We ask the Council to stop its sale until covenants can be added to the land to keep it as green, open public space respecting its status as a Bolsover District community asset.

The land is one of the few areas of Glapwell that links the village back to its heritage and the old Glapwell Hall. The trees on the land are some of the oldest in the district and they are home to protected species such as bats. The land is much loved by local residents as a space for peace and relaxation.

We believe that the sale should be made open to the widest possible scrutiny.

Signed by 1045 signatories (verified).

9.	Member Champions	11 - 16
	Report of the Monitoring Officer.	
10.	New Code of Conduct for Members	17 - 21
	Report of the Monitoring Officer.	
	<i>Appendix 1 to follow.</i>	
11.	Councillor Dispensation	22 - 25
	Report of the Monitoring Officer.	
12.	Exclusion of the Public	

To move:-

That the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following items of business to avoid the disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local

Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006). *[The category of exempt information is stated below each item].*

- | | | |
|------------|---|------------------|
| 13. | Bolsover Community Woodlands Project | 26 - 84 |
| | Report of the Deputy Leader. | |
| 14. | Senior Management Review | TO FOLLOW |
| | Report of the Leader of the Council. | |
| 15. | Chairman's Closing Remarks | |

Motion submitted by the Leader of the Council

This Council:

- is concerned about the number of cases reported to the RSPCA each year, regarding pets given as prizes via fairgrounds, social media and other channels in England and notes the issue predominantly concerns goldfish
- is concerned for the welfare of those animals that are being given as prizes
- recognises that many cases of pets being as prizes may go unreported each year
- supports a move to ban the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form.

The Council agrees to:

- ban outright the giving of live animals as prizes, in any form, on Bolsover District Council Land
- write to the UK Government, urging an outright ban on the giving of live animals as prizes on both public and private land.

Motion submitted by Councillor Clive Moesby

“On 10th November 2016 this Council passed a motion calling for a public inquiry into events at Orgreave on 18th June 1984.

Bolsover District Council is concerned and disappointed that despite this Council and many other Councils also calling for a public inquiry during the last few years, that the Government has so far failed to listen to those requests.

Despite the fact that the Police are alleged to have fabricated evidence against 95 miners charging them with offence of riot, a crime which could be punished with a life sentence no inquiry has yet taken place. Despite allegations including the use of excessive violence displayed that day by Police Officers, the false narrative by the Police and Media, and perjury by Police Officers and the subsequent cover up of that perjury by senior officers this has still not been scrutinised and investigated.

Bolsover District Council therefore calls on the Home Secretary Priti Patel to order a full public inquiry into the deployment and actions of the Police on 18th June 1984 and to conduct meaningful discussions with the Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign, The NUM and concerned MP's.”

Motion submitted by Councillor Duncan McGregor

This council notes:

Local government has endured central government funding cuts of more than 50% since 2010.

Between 2010 and 2020, councils lost 60p out of every £1 they have received from central government.

Over the last year, councils have led the way in efforts against the Covid-19 pandemic, providing a huge range of services and support for our communities.

Local government has shown more than ever how indispensable it is.

But the pandemic has led to a massive increase in expenditure and loss of income, and the Government has failed to provide the full amount of promised support.

Local government workers have kept our communities safe through the pandemic, often putting themselves at considerable risk as they work to protect public health, provide quality housing, ensure our children continue to be educated, and look after older and vulnerable people.

Since 2010, the local government workforce has endured years of pay restraint with the majority of pay points losing at least 23 per cent of their value since 2009/10.

At the same time, workers have experienced ever-increasing workloads and persistent job insecurity.

Across the UK, 900,000 jobs have been lost in local government since June 2010 – a reduction of more than 30 per cent. Local government has arguably been hit by more severe job losses than any other part of the public sector.

The funding gap caused by Covid-19 will make local government employment even more precarious.

There has been a disproportionate impact on women, with women making up more than three-quarters of the local government workforce.

Recent research shows that if the Government were to fully fund the unions' 2021 pay claim, around half of the money would be recouped thanks to increased tax revenue, reduced expenditure on benefits, and increased consumer spending in the local economy.

This council believes:

Our workers are public service super-heroes. They keep our communities clean and safe, look after those in need and keep our towns and cities running.

Without the professionalism and dedication of our staff, the council services our residents rely on would not be deliverable.

Local government workers deserve a proper real-terms pay increase. The Government needs to take responsibility and fully fund this increase; it should not put the burden on local authorities whose funding been cut to the bone and who have not been offered adequate support through the Covid-19 pandemic.

This council resolves to:

Support the pay claim submitted by GMB, Unison and Unite on behalf of council and School workers, for a substantial increase with a minimum of 10 per cent uplift in April 2021.

Call on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to central government to fund the NJC pay claim.

Write to the Chancellor and Secretary of State to call for a pay increase for local government workers to be funded with new money from central government.

Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and consider practical ways in which the council can support the campaign.
Encourage all local government workers to join a union.

Motion submitted by Councillor Peter Roberts

In order to lead the way in reducing air pollution caused by road traffic and promote flexible working Members should be encouraged to have fewer in person meetings. This not only would help the environment, but also potentially reduce expenditure on travel expenses within the Members' Allowance Scheme. I move that Members agree to note that they may voluntarily waiver their right for travel expenses for attendance at in person meetings, and Council pledges to provide more virtual options for Member attendance at informal meetings without the need for travelling to the Arc.

Motion submitted by Councillor Tom Kirkham

This motion calls on the council to place covenants on the council owned land at the top of Park Ave in Glapwell (which is commonly referred to as the ransom strip). To ensure that this recognised asset of community value is kept as it is, as an open green space free from road or development for use by generations of residents to come.

Bolsover District Council

Council

21st July 2021

MEMBER CHAMPIONS

Report of the Monitoring Officer

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Sarah Sternberg, Monitoring Officer

Contact Officer: Nicola Calver, Governance Manager
01246 217753, Nicola.calver@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

- For Council to give consideration to the Member Champion role profile and appoint Member Champions for the forthcoming year.
-

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council approves the Member Champion role profile in this report as recommended by Standards Committee; and
2. That Council appoints Member Champions from the attached list to serve until the Annual Council meeting in 2022.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Deputy Leader of the Council

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

At present no Member Champions are entitled to receive Special Responsibility Allowances. Any change to this position would require recommendation by the Remuneration Panel and approval of Full Council. Member Champions can, if they wish, claim dependent carers', travelling and subsistence expenses at a meeting or event deemed relevant to the appointed Member Champion position.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: BDC: Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £150,000 <input type="checkbox"/> NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
District Wards Significantly Affected	All
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet / Executive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SAMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details: Standards Committee

Links to Council Ambition (BDC)/Council Plan (NED) priorities or Policy Framework including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.

Good Governance

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

- 1.1 Member Champions are Councillors who act as an advocate or spokesperson for a specific area of the Council's business and activities. The main responsibility of each Member Champion is to encourage communications and positive action over the issue they represent.
- 1.2 The role profile detailed below was approved by Standards Committee and referred to Council on 30th November 2020. The relevant minute extract from that meeting included the following:
- 1.3 *The Deputy Monitoring Officer presented the report which gave consideration on the role profile to establish Member Champions. He highlighted that the role was not a decision making one but one that facilitated engagement and discussion around a particular area. Following questions on the report the Monitoring Officer confirmed that the role profile (including a list of Member Champions) would go to Council to be agreed and would then be incorporated into the Council's Constitution. She noted that the Champions would be appointed at Council, usually at the Annual Council Meeting. She agreed to share the list of Member Champions with Members before the list was submitted to Council.*

RESOLVED - That the Standards Committee agree the draft role profile and support the submission to Council of the proposal to establish Member Champions as set out in the report.

2 Role Profile of Member Champions

- 2.1 All Member Champions will have an allocated area of responsibility agreed at Council on an annual basis or when changes arise.
- 2.2 All Member Champions must act reasonably in their role and recognise and work within the political management and working arrangements adopted by the Council. As such the Member Champion must work, and communicate regularly, with the relevant Portfolio Holders.
- 2.3 A Member Champion cannot make decisions and must not commit the Council in any way or in a manner that could be interpreted as being contrary to established policy and practice. They may however confirm a position as stated in a published policy.
- 2.4 The role of a Member Champion is to:
- represent their area of interest both within and outside the Council in line with Council policy;
 - contribute to the review and development of policies pertaining to their area of interest;

- challenge and question the Council, the Leader and the Portfolio Holders on issues relevant to their area of responsibility;
- act as a catalyst for change and improvement in service delivery;
- monitor the forward plan and seek information from the Leader, Committee Chairs and Officers about forthcoming business and exert influence on behalf of the interest;
- keep councillors of all parties up to date with activities in relevant to the area of interest;
- network with Member Champions from other local authorities with the same interest to keep up to date with current developments;
- provide positive support and on occasions constructive challenge to officers in driving forward the Council agenda on relevant issues; and
- act as the Council's representative on relevant external bodies where appointed to by the Council.

2.5 The Leader and Portfolio Holders will:

- acknowledge the right of Member Champions to be consulted on matters relating to their area of interest;
- take full account of any views offered by the Member Champions prior to making decisions relating to the their area of interest;
- co-operate with Member Champions in the formulation of action plans they have developed with lead officers;
- consider nominating Champions to represent the Council at relevant conferences/seminars on the subject matter of the Member's interest.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 If it is the wish of members, to establish Member Champions at the Council as per the recommendation of the Standards Committee.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 None.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	List of Member Champions
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
N/A	

MEMBER CHAMPIONS

2021/22

MEMBER CHAMPION	NAME
Anti-Poverty Champion	Councillor Rose Bowler
Armed Forces Champion	Councillors Nick Clarke and Tom Munro
Member Development Champion	Councillor Tom Munro

Bolsover District Council

Council

12 July 2021

NEW CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COUNCILLORS

Report of the Monitoring Officer

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Sarah Sternberg, Monitoring Officer

Contact Officer: Sarah Sternberg, Monitoring Officer
01246 242414, sarah.sternberg@bolsover.gov.uk

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To present for approval a new Code of Conduct for Councillors based on the new Local Government Association Model Code as recommended for adoption by the Standards Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Council consider and adopt the new Code of Conduct for Councillors as recommended by the Standards Committee;
 2. That Members note that a presentation will be given at the next available meeting of Council detailing the Code to offer all attendees essential training and awareness of the content therein; and
 3. That Members note Standards Committee's request that all Parish and Town Councils be contacted recommending that they adopt the Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct for Councillors.
-

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

There are no financial consequences of adopting a new Code of Conduct for Councillors

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection):

Yes

No

Details:

The Council is required to have a Code of Conduct for Councillors by the Localism Act 2011. The Local Government Association has produced a model Code following the recommendations of the Committee for Standards in public life. The Council must therefore consider the model and it is good practice to adopt the model as amended to meet the council's circumstances. The model does not introduce any areas that are not currently part of the Code of Conduct either explicitly or implicitly. Rather it clarifies the expectations in relation to the conduct of Councillors in carrying out their role.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing:

Yes

No

Details:

There are no additional staffing issues resulting from this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>BDC: Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £150,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	No
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	N/A
District Wards Significantly Affected	All indirectly through the behaviour of Councillors representing them.
<p>Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet / Executive <input type="checkbox"/> SAMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	Standards Committee

Links to Council Ambition (BDC)/Council Plan (NED) priorities or Policy Framework including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.

This is an ethics issue covering the behaviour of all Councillors.

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

- 1.1 As Members may be aware, following the recommendations of the Committee for Standards in Public Life, the Local Government Association has produced a model Code of Conduct for Councillors.
- 1.2 The model code has been considered in detail by the Standards Committee and a new draft Code for Bolsover Councillors, was considered by the BDC Standards Committee at its meeting on 5th July 2021.

- 1.3 At that meeting, the Standards Committee made a recommendation to Council to adopt the draft Code. The Committee also considered that training should be undertaken on the new Code of Conduct for Councillors at a meeting of Council. It is suggested that this would take place at the September meeting.
- 1.4 Standards Committee also recommended that the gifts and hospitality limit should be £25 rather than the £50 suggested in the model. This has been incorporated in the draft before you.
- 1.5 The Monitoring Officer, and the Standards Committee, are obligated to publicise the adoption of a new Code to the Parish and Town Councils in the Bolsover Council area and recommend it to each for adoption.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 Members are invited to consider and, if appropriate, approve the Code, which will be published within the 2021 Constitution.
- 2.2 In considering the draft Code for your approval, Members should be aware that in its current form which follows the LGA model:
 - Provision will need to be made for the granting of dispensations. This is included in the current Code and has therefore been added to the draft.
 - The current Code includes reference to Councillors' obligation to attend Essential Training which is missing from the LGA model. The current Code includes a requirement to attend essential training as listed in an appendix to the code. This has been included in the draft.
 - The Current Code contains an explanation of Predetermination or Bias. This has also been included in the Code.
 - Members of the Standards Committee were asked to identify any other matters which they feel should be included in the Code.
- 2.3 The Local Government Association (LGA) will undertake an annual review of their model Code to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose, incorporating advances in technology, social media and changes in legislation. The LGA can also offer support, training and mediation to councils and councillors on the application of the Code and the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and the county associations of local councils can offer advice and support to town and parish councils.
- 2.4 In relation to training, a session has been run recently in relation to the current Code of Conduct. This was reasonably well attended. However it is important that all District Councillors are informed of the contents of the new Code of Conduct for Councillors and are able to ask questions on its contents. One way of doing this is by doing a presentation to Council on the contents and it is recommended that this take place at a future meeting.
- 2.5 In relation to the Parish and Town Councils, it is suggested that the Chair of Standards Committee and the Monitoring Officer write to the Chairs of the Parish and Town Councils following adoption by the Council and recommend

adoption of the Bolsover District Council Code of Conduct for Councillors. This is particularly relevant where some Parish Councils have a code, the contents of which are solely the Nolan principles.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 To ensure that the District Council and Parish and Town Councils have a Code of Conduct for Councillors which follows best practice and that the Councils' ethics are beyond reproach.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 There are no alternatives.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	Draft Bolsover District Council Code of Conduct for Councillors
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
None	

Bolsover District Council

Council

21 July 2021

COUNCILLOR DISPENSATION

Report of the Joint Head of Corporate Governance & Monitoring Officer

Classification: By request of the Councillor that this matter concerns, this report will be considered in public session.

Report By: Sarah Sternberg, Monitoring Officer

Contact Officer: Nicola Calver, Governance Manager - 01246 217753,
nicola.calver@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To give consideration to an application by a Member of Bolsover District Council for dispensation from the 'six month rule' requiring them to attend meetings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

1. determines whether Councillor Ross Walker be granted a dispensation from attending meetings of the Council and its Committees under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 'six month rule';
2. agrees that if a dispensation is granted to Councillor Walker it should run for six months, commencing on Wednesday 26 May 2021 and expiring on Friday 26 November 2021; and
3. requests for Councillor Walker to be informed of the Council's decision on this matter.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Corporate Governance

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

There are no financial implications associated with the approval of the dispensation request. In this scenario Councillor Walker would remain an elected Member and receive his Members' Allowance. Costs would accrue in the event that a by-election

had to be held should he breach the six-month rule and forfeit his position on the Authority. Whilst an additional expenditure, this can be met within existing budgets made for this purpose.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 places an obligation on Councillors to attend a meeting of their Authority at least once every six months. If they fail to comply with this then they automatically cease to be a Member of that Council. The Council is afforded provision to offer dispensation to an individual Member from the 'six-month rule' if it concludes that there were appropriate reasons for doing so.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>BDC: Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £150,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies</p>	No
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	No
<p>District Wards Significantly Affected</p>	Clowne East Ward
<p>Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet / Executive <input type="checkbox"/> SAMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	Yes Details: Click here to enter text.

Links to Council Ambition (BDC)/Council Plan (NED) priorities or Policy Framework including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.

All

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

- 1.1 Councillor Ross Walker has requested a dispensation from attending Council meetings. He has made this request for health reasons and this is detailed within Appendix 1 to the report.
- 1.2 The last meeting which Councillor Walker attended was Council on 3 February 2021. He is unlikely to be able to attend another meeting before 3 August 2021, when Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 would automatically apply. In particular, because he would not have attended 'any meeting of the Authority' for six months by that point he would automatically cease to be a Councillor.
- 1.3 The interpretation of 'any meeting of the Authority' is loosely defined in law. It covers meetings of Council, Committees or Sub Committees (either as an appointed, substitute or visiting Member), officially established Working Groups (of which they are a Member) and meetings of an Outside Body, to which they have been appointed by Council.
- 1.4 Standards Committee has recently agreed a proposed Code of Practice on the Application on the 6 Month Rule and Notification Processes and other means of vacating office.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 Council are able to grant a dispensation to Councillor Walker so that he does not have to attend a meeting for a specified period. If Council decide to do this then he would remain in office.
- 2.2 Council may decide not to grant Councillor Walker a dispensation. He would cease to be a Councillor unless he had attended a meeting by 3 August 2021. A by-election would then have to be held in order to fill the vacancy on the Council.
- 2.3 Members have previously indicated that any dispensations which are granted ought to run for six months.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The decision on whether or not to grant a dispensation should be based on Councillor Walker's role as Councillor and the impact it would have on the local community.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 Council has the option not to consider the application for a dispensation for Councillor Walker. This option is not recommended as it would create uncertainty for Councillor Walker, his family and the ward which he represents.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	Request from Cllr Ross Walker
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	

Agenda Item 13

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted