

19/214

**Minutes of the FULL COUNCIL held at the Village Hall, Corfe Mullen on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 commencing at 19:30 hrs**

**Present:** Cllr Sowry-House - Mayor

Cllrs	Everett	P Holland	Jefferies	Purvis
	Harrison	Honeyman	Lortie	Stennett
	A Holland	Howard	Mattocks	

Officer in attendance: Katrina Blee (Clerk) and Claire Gamble (Assistant Clerk).

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD**

There were no members of the public present.

**19/463 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Barron and Craven.

**19/464 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**19/465 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

*Pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was resolved that the press and public be excluded from the items below due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.*

*Nem Con.*

**19/466 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: To Confirm Appointment of replacement Town Clerk/RFO**

The Mayor updated members on the recent recruitment day and thanked Cllr Paul Holland for taking each candidate on a tour of sites.

The recruitment panel had made a unanimous decision on the preferred candidate who is from outside the town and parish council sector. This means that she does not currently hold the relevant Town Clerk qualification, the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA). Having a qualified Clerk is one of the criteria for holding the General Power of Competence (GPC). Eligibility for the GPC has to be declared at each Ordinary Election, and this was done in May 2019, so the Council can continue its current use of GPC. However, any new use of the GPC will cease on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 when the current Clerk, Katrina Blee, formally retires and it cannot resume until the new Clerk is qualified.

An offer of employment was made to the preferred candidate at the starting point of the advertised salary scale subject to receipt of two satisfactory references and obtaining the CiLCA qualification within 12 months of starting employment with the Council, with the additional condition that progress towards achieving the qualification within the six-month probationary period can be demonstrated. The Council will support the new Clerk to obtain the CiLCA.

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The Mayor reported that the offer of employment has been accepted and two satisfactory references have now been received. The successful candidate will start on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June, which is unfortunately only two days before Katrina Blee's last working day on 12<sup>th</sup> June (she is on leave between 13<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June). The Clerk and the Mayor will be discussing with the successful candidate how best to achieve a smooth and effective handover and will report back to Council on this point.

Cllr Tim Howard wished to record thanks to the recruitment panel and all staff involved in the recruitment process for their hard work.

The Mayor then proposed, and Cllr Lortie seconded, that Miss Nicola Gray be appointed to the post of Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer with effect from 10<sup>th</sup> June 2020, on the scale SCP 43-47 with her starting salary point being SCP 43, working alongside the current Clerk/RFO until her retirement.

*Nem Con.*

**19/467 Date and time of next meeting**

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 19.45 hrs (*time subject to change*).

The meeting closed at 19:26 hrs.