

Appointment to Committees and Other Bodies

Special Committee

Date: 10th December 2012

Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services

Wards: All

Locality Affected: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To make changes to the Council's Committee Membership to fill vacancies on Committees and Other Bodies following the sad death of Councillor Doreen Dart, and the election of Councillor Steve Weisinger in the subsequent by-election in the Blunsdon and Highworth Ward.
- 1.2 It is anticipated that nominations to fill the vacancies created will be tabled at the meeting.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 To approve nominations to fill the vacancies set out in paragraphs 3.4 to 3.6 of the report.

3. Detail

- 3.1 Councillor Steve Weisinger was elected as a Councillor at the by-election in the Blunsdon and Highworth Ward held on Thursday 15th November 2012.
- 3.2 Following the by-election result there was no change to the overall political balance of the Council and therefore there has been no need to undertake a review of the Council's political balance arrangements which remain the same as those in May 2012.
- 3.3 For the purpose of this report vacancies have been broken down into three groups. The first group comprises vacancies within the gift of the Conservative Group. The second group comprises vacancies to which any group can make nominations. The third group comprises vacant Chair and Vice-Chair positions to which any group is entitled to make nominations.
- 3.4 The following bodies have vacancies to which the Conservative Group will table nominations:

Appeals Committee
Children and Young Peoples Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Children's Trust Board
Corporate Parenting Advisory Board

Appointment to Committees and Other Bodies

Special Committee

Date: 10th December 2012

Footpaths and Rights of Way Committee
Joint Safety Committee
Joint Strategic Planning Working Party
Licensing Committee
Local Development Plans Working Party
Planning Committee
School Admissions Forum
SACRE
Standards Committee (Deputy)

- 3.5 The following Bodies have vacancies to which any political group may make nominations. Should there be more than one nomination to fill a vacancy the Director of Law and Democratic Services will call each nominee in alphabetical order and the person receiving the most votes shall be appointed.

Cricklade Country Way Partnership
Cotswold Water Park Joint Committee
Equalities Advisory Forum
Local Government Association Rural Commission
Swindon Dance Board (two vacancies)
Swindon/Ocotal Link
Town Twinning Network

- 3.6 The following appointments can either be made by Council or the Committees concerned, and any political group may make nominations to fill these vacancies.

Chair of Footpaths and Rights of Way Committee
Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee

- 3.7 Councillor Doreen Dart was also Chair or Vice-Chair of the following bodies. However, these bodies appoint their Chair and Vice-Chair and so it is not proposed that any action be undertaken by Special Committee in this regard.

Corporate Parenting Advisory Board (Chair)
Equalities Advisory Forum (Vice-Chair)
Local Development Plans Working Party (Chair)
Town Twinning (Chair)

4. Alternative Options

No alternative option is proposed.

Appointment to Committees and Other Bodies

Special Committee

Date: 10th December 2012

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications to this report. Councillor Steve Weisinger is entitled to receive a pro-rata Councillor Basic Allowance but this and other costs, such as Special Responsibility Allowances for Licensing Committee Membership and any relevant Chair's Allowance will be met from existing budgets.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and Human Rights considerations have been taken fully into account in compiling this report which is required to be submitted to Special Committee, on behalf of Council, to ensure compliance with the Council's political balance provisions set out in the Local Government Act 1989.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 There are no Staffing, Sustainability, Health, Rural or Crime and Disorder implications for consideration.

Links to One Swindon, Strategic Objectives, Plans and Policies

- 5.4 The delivery of effective, accountable and transparent decision making by the Council directly links to its overall policy and objectives.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.5 A Diversity Impact Assessment is not required.

Risk Management

- 5.6 A Risk Management Assessment is not required.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Board Director Finance, Revenues, Benefits and Property (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 Council Constitution 2012/13

8. Appendices

- 8.1 None.