

WESTERLEIGH & COALPIT HEATH PARISH COUNCIL - SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS

Introduction

The scheme does not delegate any matter:

- a. Reserved by law
- b. Which by law may not be delegated to a Councillor and/ or Officer.

The Parish Clerk is the Proper Officer and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) for the Council. The powers and duties set out in this scheme are delegated to the Parish Clerk. This scheme will be reviewed as required and ratified annually.

Extent of Delegation

- All delegated functions shall be deemed to be exercised on behalf of and in the name of the Council.
- The Parish Clerk will exercise these powers in accordance with:
 - Approved budgets
 - The Council's Financial Regulations
 - Any other adopted policies of the Council (e.g. grant applications)
 - All statutory common law and contractual requirements
- The Parish Clerk may do anything pursuant to the delegated power or duty which it would be lawful for the Council to do including anything reasonably implied or incidental to that power or duty.
- In addition, the Parish Clerk is authorised to undertake the day-to-day administration of the Council to include:
 - The day-to-day administration of services, together with routine inspection and control.
 - Day-to-day supervision of all contractors/ staff employed by the Council.
 - Emergency expenditure up to £2000 whether or not there is budgetary provision for the expenditure (subject to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations).
 - Taking appropriate action arising from other emergencies (in consultation with the Chair/Vice Chair of Council as appropriate to the circumstances).
- The Parish Clerk acting as Responsible Financial Officer, is authorised to undertake the payment of all invoices, within agreed budget and subject to authorisation by two members . Authorisation can be made by email if face to face authorisation is not possible.

Urgent Decisions of Council

Urgent decisions required between scheduled meetings of the Council are delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the Chair of the Council and all other Councillors.

Decisions made under this delegation will be reported to, and recorded in the minutes of, the next Council meeting.

Under this delegation, where appropriate, the Clerk may decide that an extraordinary meeting of the Council be called to deal with the urgent matter.

Planning Delegation to the Clerk

The Council delegates decisions arising under development control consultations which are not considered to be of wider public interest, or applications with time urgent restrictions, to the Clerk in consultation with all Councillors. (NOTE - If Councillors express differing views via consultation, the application will automatically be referred to a Council meeting).

Consultation may be by email, or in person. It may also take place at meetings of the Council.

The Clerk will arrange for relevant papers to be circulated to the Councillors, who should return their comments to the Clerk for determination of the Council's response within the prescribed consultation period.

Delegated decisions will be reported to, and recorded in the minutes of, the next Council meeting.

In respect of controversial or major development proposals with time urgent restrictions, the Clerk in consultation with the Chair, may decide that a parish meeting and/or an extraordinary meeting of the Council be called to consider the matter.

Written Records

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 (2014 SI No. 2095) require a written record to be kept of certain decisions made by an officer of a Parish Council acting under delegated powers. The Clerk will keep a log of all decisions made under delegated powers and will arrange for these to be made open for public inspection via the Council website.