

CHALE PARISH COUNCIL

Additional temporary Standing Orders

The following standing orders will apply for a specified period until May 2021

THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020

a) Regulation 4, provides that where an appointment would otherwise be made or is required to be made at an annual meeting of a local authority, the appointment can continue until the next annual meeting of the authority or until such time as that authority may determine (Regulation 4 (2)). This would apply to the election of the chairman, the first business at the annual council meeting. Therefore, the current chairman can remain in place until an annual meeting is held (possibly 2021) unless the council decide to elect a replacement earlier

b) Regulation 5 (6) enables local councils to make standing orders to specify how voting will be carried out:

i) As a first attempt, voting will be made during a virtual meeting in the usual way but if this is not possible, an email will be sent to all councillors by the Clerk setting out the decision/matter to be considered. A delivery receipt will be attached to the email to confirm delivery. Councillors will respond by email as to whether they support the decision or not, and the Clerk will determine if there is a majority view either for or against. Accordingly, the resolution will be made by the majority vote and recorded. A tied vote will be determined by a casting vote made by the Chairman. Councillors will be advised of the resolution.

All emails from Councillors setting out how they voted will be saved to an electronic file. Decisions and resolutions made in this way will be ratified by the Council at the next "normal" meeting.

ii) Members and the public can access records of decisions made under this process on the Council's website. Following the resumption of normal business practices, all decisions taken under these temporary standing orders, will be ratified and recorded at the Council's first "normal" council meeting. Regulation 17 – confirms that the council complies with Regulation 8 of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 (decisions and background papers to be made available to the public) by making the written record and any background papers available for inspection by publishing them on their website; or by such other means that the council considers appropriate.

c) Regulation 6 disapplies paragraph 7 of Schedule 12 to the 1972 Act. This means there is no requirement for the Parish Council to hold its annual meeting, although they may do so if they so choose. Unless otherwise required by the Parish Council, this will be held at the resumption of normal council business.

d) These temporary standing orders will operate, in the first instance, until May 2021 or until the resumption of normal council business.

Resolved by Chale Parish Council on 20 April 2020 – Minute number 33/20