

Supporting information for the Council to consider a Scheme of Delegation.

275. To consider a scheme of delegation which would permit the Clerk to consult with members of the Parish Council by Zoom to make decisions which would then be recorded in a register of delegated decisions. https://www.slcc.co.uk/remote-meetings-court-date-announced/

In the event the court case is not successful are the Councillors willing to meet face to face?

If not a contingency scheme of delegation needs to be put in place for non-essential meetings.

"Lawyers in Local Government (LLG) announced that their court application, made with Association of Democratic Officers (ADSO) and Hertfordshire County Council will be heard on 21 April 2021 in the Administrative Court.

The application seeks a declaration that the existing provision to allow local authorities to meet remotely within Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Authorities Executive Arrangements (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 remains, regardless of the expiry of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

As soon as news on the judgement is published, we will update you, in the meantime it is advised that councils make any necessary arrangements for meetings from 7 May 2021 to be held within current government guidelines."

Extract from the minutes of the meeting held on 25th April 2021.

275. Scheme of delegation

The Council was asked to consider a scheme of delegation, which would be in place as a contingency, should the court case allowing the continuation of remote meetings be unsuccessful. In making the Officer's delegated decision, the Clerk would take into account the majority views of the Councillors. Decisions would then be recorded in a register of delegated decisions. It was proposed by Cllr Roberts the Council agrees to the scheme of delegation. The motion was seconded by Cllr Wood and unanimously agreed by all Councillors.

The Chair highlighted the Council has to have an Annual Parish Council meeting. The following were discussed:

- Any physical venue can only accommodate Councillors and members of public up to a maximum number that allows social distancing measures to be maintained.
- A one-way system will need to be implemented.
- A meeting outside would be dependent on weather conditions.

Page 1