



Referral made under the Council's Call-in Scrutiny Procedure Rules
Decision of the Administrative Committee 19th January 2023
Appointment of Representative Trustees – Laleham Charities

The Council's Call-In Scrutiny Procedure Rules provides a mechanism for councillors to refer decisions to the Administrative Committee (or Council where the decision being subject to Call-In is a decision of the Administrative Committee) for determination. Referrals must be made in writing, shortly after the notice of committees' decisions have been published.

Details of the referred decisions are stated later in this paper.

Report Author – Farida Hussain, Monitoring Officer

Recommendation

The Council is requested to agree one of the following resolutions:

- **Uphold the decision of the Administrative Committee (i.e. the decision stands)**
- **Withdraw the decision of the Administrative Committee (i.e. the decision is not taken) and appoint the nominees listed in Appendix 2 as Representative Trustees to Laleham Charities Village Hall and Recreation Grounds**

In order to provide a structured approach to considering the referred decisions, the following process applies:

1. A representative of the councillors who have referred the decisions to speak on the reasons for their referral. New reasons may not be introduced. Time limit of five minutes.
2. Chair of the committee/sub-committee that made the decisions to respond to the reasons for the referral. Time limit of five minutes.
3. Views from councillors, made in accordance with the rules of debate.
4. A representative of the councillors who have referred the decisions to make closing remarks on the referral. Time limit of five minutes.
5. Closing remarks from the chair of the committee/sub-committee. Time limit of five minutes.
6. Votes on the options listed above. Separate votes for each of the referred decisions will be held.

Details of the decision

Meeting: Administrative Committee, 19th January 2023

Items: Appointment of Representative Trustees – Laleham Charities Village Hall and Recreation Grounds

Resolution

The Committee resolved to appoint Bob Parry, Ken Williams and Kevin Rowell as representative trustees to Laleham Charities.

Reasons for referrals

Councillors O Rybinski, H Harvey and K Howkins have provided the following reasons for referring the decisions of the Administrative Committee:

Article 11.3 (c) Transparency – the decision-making process should be open and transparent to members and the public.

The Decision of the Administrative Committee was not transparent in that the reasons were not clear why the unsuccessful nominees were not selected.

Background

Laleham Village Hall (Charity no 305063) and Recreation Ground (Charity no 305069) are individual registered charities collectively referred to as the 'Laleham Charities'. Membership of the Laleham Charities are made up of six 'competent' persons for a term of 4 years by the Council. The term of the appointment of half of the Trustees are staggered therefore in accordance with the rules, appointments should be made every two years.

Key issues

There are currently no procedural rules in place regarding the appointment of the Trustees to the Laleham Charities.

The nominees who were appointed by the Administrative Committee on 19th January 2023 to act as Trustees have since withdrawn their nominations and no longer wish to be considered for the role. Three alternative nominations have been put forward by Colin Squire OBE, Chair of the Laleham Parish Lands Charity as shown in Appendix 2 together with a summary of their suitability for the role.

The appointment of the Trustees resolved by the Administrative Committee has caused some concerns amongst residents and subsequently officers have been made aware that a petition regarding is decision has reached over 650 signatures.

Decision

Council is asked to review the decision of the Administrative Committee and consider the nominations put forward by Colin Squire OBE. In making this decision, Council should consider if the nominees are 'competent' to act as Trustees to the Laleham Charities.

Attachments:

Appendix 1 - List of nominations considered by the Administrative Committee

Appendix 2 – Nominees of the Trustees of Laleham Charities

Appendix 3 - Charity Commission Order dated 26 August 1930

Appendix 4 - Guidelines for the Body of Trustees appointed for the Administration of the Laleham Charities dated 29 January 1999