

# Agenda Item: 8

## Co-Option of New Council Member

### Agenda Item: 8A:

Under this agenda item Members need to decide if to proceed with a co-option. A proposal needs to be put to the Council (and seconded) and a vote taken.

- If the motion is that the Council wishes to proceed with co-option, then the Chairman will move to agenda item 8B
- If the motion is against proceeding with co-option, then the Chairman will move to agenda item 9 and the chance to co-opt a new member will be brought back to a future meeting of the Council (most likely the Annual May meeting).

### Agenda Item 8B:

This agenda item will only be taken if the Council resolve to do so under agenda item 8A.

Under this agenda item Residents who are putting themselves forward for co-option will be invited to speak, introducing themselves and stating why they wish to be a Councillor and what they have been involved with in the Village to date.

Once all the Residents who wish to put themselves forward have had the opportunity to speak, the Council should move to a vote. This vote works a little differently to most votes of the council.

- No one should be asked to leave the room while the vote is taken.
- The Council's rules do not allow for a paper ballot to be taken, so voting must be done by show of hands.
- For a Resident to become a candidate in the vote they need to be proposed and seconded by two Council Members.
- Multiple candidates can be proposed by Members.
- Once there are no more proposals for candidates from Members the Council will move to a vote.
  
- **In the Case of one Candidate:** that candidate will still be required to win a vote of the Council, if more Members vote against the candidate than in favour of appointing, then no co-option will have been made. Abstaining counts as voting against the candidate.
  
- **In the case of two candidates:** each Member will have one vote and Members should vote for their preferred candidate. In the case of a tied vote the Chairman must break the deadlock by casting a deciding vote in favour of one of the candidates. The winning candidate must have won an absolute majority of the votes, abstaining counts as voting against.
  
- **In the case of three or more candidates:** each Member will have one vote and Members should vote for their preferred candidate. After the first vote any candidate with no votes and the candidates with the least votes drop out. The vote is repeated, after each vote the candidate with the least votes drops out (with the Chairman breaking the deadlock if necessary), until you get down to two candidates. You then follow as above.
  
- The Clerk will then confirm the outcome of the voting and declare the winner. The successful candidate will be invited by the Clerk to sign their decoration of office and take a seat with the rest the Council Members so that they can fully participate in the rest of the meeting.