



VENTNOR EAST CASUAL VACANCY

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 26/18

12 MARCH 2018

The purpose of this paper is to ask Members to agree the process for filling the current casual vacancy for a Town Councillor for Ventnor East.

No. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) The vacancy is a consequence of the recent death of the much respected Councillor Ed Gouge.
 - b) The vacancy was advertised as required by law through the publication and circulation of the relevant statutory notice advising residents that if 10 registered electors for the Ventnor East Ward informed the Isle of Wight Council's Elections Officer that they wished for an election to be held, one would be arranged.
 - c) The notice period expired on Monday 5 March and as no requests for an election have been received by the Isle of Wight Council, the Town Council is now authorised to fill the vacancy by co-option.
-

2) CO-OPTION PROCESS

- a) The Town Council has a Co-option Policy and a copy if it is attached to this Report for Members' information.
 - b) If Members' agree to follow the Policy it will be possible to complete the process in time for the vacancy to be formally filled at the Town Council Meeting of 9 April.
-

3) RECOMMENDATION

Members are recommended to:

- i) agree to fill the current casual vacancy for Ventnor East by following the Co-option Policy attached to this Report; and
 - ii) appoint several of their number to form the Interview Group that will also be attended by the Town Clerk.
-



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY DOCUMENT

CO-OPTION POLICY

- 1) This policy will apply when an election has not been called for by ten or more electors from the parish ward in which a vacancy has occurred.
- 2) The vacancy will be advertised locally, requesting people to put their names forward for co-option by letter or email to the Town Clerk.
- 3) All replies will be circulated to members of the Town Council for consideration and the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Mayor will arrange a date for a special meeting open to all the then current Members and attended by at least a majority of them where candidates for co-option will be asked to make a short presentation.
- 4) An applicant endorsed by the special meeting will be recommended to the earliest full meeting of the Town Council for co-option to it.