



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

REPORT AUTHOR	Colin Hill – Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
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Date	29th July 2020
SUBJECT	Cessation of Emergency Committee and Waving of Absence of Attendance

PURPOSE:

- To remind Members that following the Covid 19 Pandemic Town Council agreed on the 25th March 2020 the following Resolution was passed: -

“That Full Council agree to the establishment of an Emergency Committee operating under Terms of Reference as outlined in Appendix A. That the Town Clerk be given emergency powers in the event of need to do anything expedient and necessary to ensure the continuous business of the council, and to deal with mandatory undertakings in order to prevent the authority from incurring liability. That the Council move towards virtual meetings if deemed to be lawful.”
- The Emergency committee has since met on 8th April, 6th May, 3rd June, 1st July and 29th July in order to discharge its function as a Statutory Consultee on Planning Matters and to conduct a range of ongoing business of the council.
- The Emergency Committee agreed on the 1st July that the meeting of the 29th July would be the last before returning to the previously approved Council and Committee Cycle – see Appendix 1.
- Members last attended Full Council on the 25th March. By the time Members attend either a Committee meeting or a Town Council meeting, a period of six months may have elapsed, and to avoid the need to declare casual vacancies, it is necessary to Resolve that all Members absence from meetings of the Council or Committees is authorised en bloc and that the time period for such qualification is restated to run from 1st September 2020

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- There are none arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

6. That Members of the Emergency Committee pass the following Resolutions:-

That the Emergency Committee, established by Resolution of the Town Council on the 25th March 2020, be disbanded with effect from the end of this meeting and that the Town Council and Committee timetable as agreed by Town Council on the 11th March 2020 be reinstated and that powers of the Council and its Committees a restored effective from 30th July 2020.

That by virtue of interruption to routine Council attendance arising out of the Covid 19 pandemic and the need to form an Emergency Committee, some Members have not had the opportunity to attend a Council and Committee meeting since 25th March 2020 and therefore the Emergency Committee, in exercising the powers of the Town Council, approves for all Members, all absences from any meetings since 25th March 2020 to date and that for the purposes of time barred disqualification , the start of attendance records for the current Municipal year , commences from 1st September 2020.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

7. To authorise the return of powers back to Town Council and Standing Committees
8. To prevent the disqualification of Town Councillors arising out of none-attendance for a six-month period.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

9. None arising out of this report.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION:

10. None

SUPPORTING PAPERS:

- Appendix 1 Council and Committee Residual Timetable for 2020-21