

# Merton Parish Council – Agenda Support Document

## Agenda Item 9.9.20 b): DALC AGM 7<sup>th</sup> October to review proxy voting form and appoint a representative

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on 7 OCTOBER 2020**

As a member of the Devon Association of Local Councils Ltd you are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting taking place on Wednesday 7 October 2020, at 10.00am. The meeting will be held remotely by Zoom due to ongoing risks associated with COVID-19. Unfortunately, the conference which usually adjoins the AGM has been cancelled.

### **Who can attend the AGM?**

Each member council may appoint one person to act as its representative to attend, to speak and vote at a general meeting. Its representative must be a councillor holding office in the council, or an appointed person designated at a council meeting to represent the council. A parish meeting representative must be either the chairman or a local government elector of the parish designated at a parish meeting to represent it at meetings of the company.

Each member council may appoint one additional person as its representative to attend and speak. That person may be a councillor, clerk or other employee of the council.

***Polite request:*** We ask that member councils consider sending just their voting representative this year. This will assist us to manage voting in a large meeting in remote meeting setting.

### **Proxy Voting**

All member councils are able to use the Form of Proxy to indicate their position for motions on the agenda. ***Polite request:*** We ask that all members, regardless of whether they send a representative to the meeting or not, use the Form of Proxy to indicate their preferred candidates for appointment to the Board of Directors only, appointing the Chairman of the meeting as the proxy, to assist us to collating the votes for each candidate.

**Please note that the Appendixes referred to in the Form of Proxy have been sent to Cllrs and are available from the Clerk on request.**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING | FORM OF PROXY**

Merton Parish Council

C/o: Rowans, Kings Farm Lane, Winkleigh, EX19 8HF

***Before completing this form, please read the explanatory notes provided.***

We	<i>Merton Parish Council</i>	PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL/MEETING
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being a member of the Devon Association of Local Councils Ltd, appoint the Chairman of the meeting or (see note 3)

*[Person's name]*

as our proxy to attend, speak and vote on our behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held on Wednesday 7 October 2020 at 10.00am and at any adjournment of the meeting.

We direct our proxy to vote on the following resolutions as indicated by marking the appropriate box with an 'X'.

MOTIONS	For	Against
3.1 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2019 as an accurate record. ( <i>Appendix A</i> )		
5.1 To accept the Financial Statements and Internal Examiners Report for 2019/2020		
5.2 Choose your preferred candidates to be appointed to the Board. You may select up to 9 individuals. ( <i>Appendix C</i> )		
Charlie Fisher, Hennock Parish Council		
David Chalmers, Northam Town Council		

**Council meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 7.30pm via Zoom.**

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	Elizabeth Brookes-Hocking, Crediton Town Council		
	Elizabeth Hitchens, Brixton Parish Council		
	Glyn Richards, South Brent Parish Council		
	Ian Cowling, Bishops Nympton Parish Council		
	Kenneth Browse, Halberton Parish Council		
	Michael Hocking, Newton Abbot Town Council		
	Phillip Dredge, Ivybridge Town Council		
	Roger Cashmore, Newton St Cyres Parish Council		
	Steven Finnemore, Dartington Parish Council		
	Teresa Bowers, Stowford Parish Council		
<b>5.3</b>	To agree the appointment of [ <i>to be tabled</i> ] to audit the company accounts 2021/2022		
<b>5.4</b>	To approve a 2.9% increase to member subscriptions for 2021/2022		
<b>SPECIAL MOTIONS</b>			
<b>6.1</b>	To agree that the draft articles of association attached to this agenda be adopted as the articles of association of the Company in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the Company's existing articles of association. ( <i>Appendix D</i> )		

### Explanatory Notes

#### **Form of proxy**

1. As a member of the Company you are entitled to appoint a proxy to exercise all or any of your rights to attend, speak and vote at a general meeting of the Company. You can only appoint a proxy using the procedures set out in these notes.
2. Appointment of a proxy does not preclude you from attending the meeting and voting in person. If you have appointed a proxy and attend the meeting in person, your proxy appointment will automatically be terminated.

#### **Appointment**

3. A proxy must attend the meeting to represent you. If you wish to appoint a proxy other than the chairman of the meeting, insert their full name in the box. If you leave this space blank, the chairman of the meeting will be appointed your proxy. If you wish your proxy to make any comments on your behalf, you will need to appoint someone other than the chairman and give them the relevant instructions directly.

#### **Voting directions**

4. To direct your proxy how to vote on the resolutions mark the appropriate box with an "X". If no voting indication is given, your proxy will vote or abstain from voting at his or her discretion. Your proxy will vote (or abstain from voting) as he or she thinks fit in relation to any other matter which is put before the meeting, including a motion to adjourn.

### **Agenda Item 9.9.20 c): Expressions of interest in Devon Home Choice Training** **DEVON HOME CHOICE TRAINING**

Devon Communities Together and Devon Rural Housing Partnership would like to invite you to an online training session on Devon Home Choice.

**Council meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 7.30pm via Zoom.**

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The aims of the training is to familiarise delegates with how the choice based lettings system works, with particular reference to affordable homes in rural areas, and to equip delegates with the knowledge required to explain how Devon Home Choice works for people looking for affordable housing in their area. This course is intended for District Councillors or for Parish Councils and Community Land Trust members who are interested in providing affordable housing in their communities or who already have affordable homes in their village or developments on site.

### **Course details:-**

**Trainer: Gary Pitman, Devon Home Choice Project Lead**

**Time and Date: TBC, Autumn/Winter 2020**

**The training will be held online**

Course content: Gary will talk through the application form, local connection, eligibility, bandings and under-occupancy. There will be a chance to ask questions during the course.

**At the moment we are looking for expressions of interest** for the training and will confirm times and dates once we have sufficient expressions of interest to run the training.

### **Agenda Item 10.9.20 a): TDC Strategic Plan 2020 – 2023 Consultation**

Torrige District Council are asking the public for their views on the Council's

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2023**

“The Strategic Plan describes the priorities and direction of our district. It sets out the Council's ambitious "2020 Vision" to help make Torrige an even better place to live, work and visit. It shapes what we do, what we will prioritise spending money on and how we will work together with our partners over the next 3 years to get the best for our residents.”

Details can be found on TDC website: <https://www.torrige.gov.uk/Consultations>

### **Agenda Item 10.9.20 b): Devon’s Updated Local Flood Risk Management Strategy consultation.**

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/devon-local-flood-risk-management-strategy/>

#### **Re: Public Consultation of the Updated Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for Devon**

The draft document, produced by Devon County Council and partner authorities, outlines how the risk of flooding to property and infrastructure will be managed and reduced over the next six years, from 2021-2027.

The strategy looks at how plans for flood alleviation schemes can be developed and how communities can increase their resilience against flooding and the impact of climate change. Through partnership working and community engagement, investment is prioritised to target high risk communities. Natural and sustainable flood management measures will be promoted, where appropriate, in all flood investigations and improvement projects, to reduce the scale, or need, of hard engineering solutions.

Part 2 of the strategy prioritises areas and communities to be considered for investment in flood alleviation works. Although priorities are subject to change, it currently includes Exeter, Kingsbridge, Tiverton, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Exmouth, Newton Abbot, Seaton, Kingsteignton, Totnes, Bideford, Ilfracombe, Budleigh Salterton, Sidmouth, Crediton and Okehampton.

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Industry professionals, town and parish councils and members of the public are all invited to have their say and can view and respond to the consultation draft online from 21st August 2020 until the consultation closes on 15th October 2020.

### **Agenda Item 10.9.20 c): Government consultation on Planning for the Future.**

The Government launched the consultation ‘Planning for the Future’ in August. It proposes reforms of the planning system to streamline and modernise the planning process, bring a new focus to design and sustainability, improve the system of developer contributions to infrastructure, and ensure more land is available for development where it is needed. In doing so it covers a package of proposals for reform of the planning system in England, covering plan-making, development management, development contributions, and other related policy proposals. The government cites the proposals as being ‘radical reform unlike anything we have seen since the Second World War’. The proposals are wide ranging and if taken forward will impact on almost all aspects of how the planning system operates locally.

The **Planning for the Future** consultation runs until 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and you can find further information, including the consultation document and guidance on ways to respond, online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future>.

### **Agenda Item 10.9.20 d): Government Consultation on Changes to the Current Planning System.**

‘**Changes to the Current Planning System**’ sets out proposals for measures to improve the effectiveness of the current planning system; focusing on four main proposals:

- changes to the standard method for assessing local housing need;
- securing of First Homes through developer contributions in the short term until the transition to a new system;
- supporting small and medium-sized builders by temporarily lifting the small sites threshold below which developers do not need to contribute to affordable housing; and
- extending the current Permission in Principle route to major development.

This is much more of a targeted consultation but it could still potentially have implications if the measures are taken forward as proposed. The **Changes to the Current Planning System** consultation runs until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 and you can find further information, including the consultation document and guidance on ways to respond, online at: <http://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system> .

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