Aspley Guise Parish Council

MINUTES for Council Extra Ordinary Meeting
Minutes of the meeting of Aspley Guise Parish Council held on Monday 19th June, 19.30 at Aspley Guise Village Hall.

In attendance: Amy Hayes – Clerk. Cllr Bailey - Chairman, Cllr Plasom, Cllr Nagle, Cllr Sayers.

Item No		Agenda Item	Action
1.		To receive apologies for absence: Local Government Act 1972 s85 (1) Cllr Tim Raper	
2.		To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda: • Declaration of member's interest of a non-pecuniary nature: (having membership of a club, charity etc. or close relationship) None • Declaration of member's interest of a pecuniary nature: (Having a financial bearing on a member or their spouse/partner) None	
3.		To consider requests for dispensations: Localism Act 2011 C7 s33 None	
4.		Public Open Session (Max.15 Mins): Resident 1 - Expressed concerns around new Co-opting policy and curious how we plan to solve the current problem of too many applicants for the vacant seats. Resident 2 – criteria set out in the co-opting policy they feel current members do not meet; therefore, how can they take vote on new members when they do not meet it themselves. Resident 3 – suggested, the vote for co-opting members should be considered we carry out a secret ballot, on paper. To take any pressure off councillors to vote in a certain way. Resident 4 – with regards to the filming policy, raised the point that AGPC cannot overrule an Act of Parliament, and therefore they cannot ban somebody from a meeting because they are unhappy with the subsequent reporting of the meeting. Resident 5 – wanted to make a note of the increased toxicity at meetings. It is now getting in between any chances of a decent debate, things need to be toned down as it is not helpful. People need to be reasonable. Comments that are being posted on social media following any upload	

		relating to the PC are damaging and unnecessary. They also made a comment that are considering retracting their interest in joining the PC due to all of this.	
5.		**Policies** 1. **A motion has been raised to approve Co-Opting Policy.** ➢ **Cllr Nagle then proposed to amend the policy as follows -** 1. The Co-Option Policy was adopted by Aspley Guise Parish Council at its meeting held on 19th June 2023. *This procedure is based on NALC Legal Briefing L15-08 – Good Practice for Selection of Candidates for Co-option to Local Councils.* Cllr Nagel comments - I would like to remove this as the guidance was WITHDRAWN by NALC because it was too prescriptive. 6, f. *The Parish Council will vote on the acceptability of each candidate for co-option, taking guidance from the "personal specification" criteria set out at Appendix 1 and personal preference/opinion the personal statements requested from and provided by the candidates and the presentation.* For each vacant seat an absolute majority vote is required for each candidate from all members present and entitled to vote (LGA 1972 Schedule 12 Paragraph 39). *A candidate who does not get an absolute majority will be deleted.* Cllr Nagle comments – this is too prescriptive I would like it removed. Appendix 1 -PERSONAL SPECIFICATION *GUIDANCE* FOR A CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR ***(Note: this is for guidance only, no candidate will be excluded due to these guidelines. Each Cllr should make up their own minds on the suitability of each candidate)*** *Amend the heading Essential to Highly Desirable on table.* Cllr Nagle comments – I would like to add guidance and the note to ensure everyone is mindful that this is guidance. **A motion was raised to accept the amendments to the policy by Cllr Nagle, seconded by Cllr Sayers the motion was agreed unanimously.** **Motion to approve the amended Co-opting policy as a final document. Proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Plasom the motion was agreed unanimously.** 2. **A motion has been raised to approve Filming Policy.** **Withdrawn Cllr Bailey** **Close 19:51**	**Cllr Bailey** **Cllr Bailey**
		Next Meeting: Full Council 3rd July	