

Wheathampstead Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting 20 September 2017 – 19:30

Present:	Councillors	D Johnston	Chairman
		G Clark	
		E Habib	
		L Halford	
		S Haynes	
		T Reason	
		J Shardlow	
		P Woodhams	
		J Warren	Clerk to the Council
		Press	0
		Public	4

The meeting began with refreshments and an opportunity to talk informally.

5265-17 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Ana Gardner who was unable to attend as a potential co-optee.

5266-17 Public Speaking

None.

5267-17 Specific Declarations of Interest & Dispensations

None.

5268-17 Co-option of a parish councillor

The Chairman welcomed the four candidates to the meeting and explained the process for co-option. Following the resignation of Councillor Brewster in May after her election to County Councillor a vacancy existed which Council was legally required to seek to fill. (LGA 1972 s 89, LGA 1972 sch 12 s39)

At Minute 5190-17 the co-option process was agreed, namely:

Advertise vacancy – noticeboards, website, Pump and word of mouth for decision by parish councillors in September.

Potential co-optees, in order of receipt of their application forms (copies circulated to all councillors) would have up to 3 minutes in which to present themselves to councillors, who could then ask questions.

Five applications had been received, presentations were delivered in order:

Mark Ward

Jonathan Booth

Melys Pritchett

Owain McKenzie

A fifth candidate had withdrawn her application as unable to attend.

Wheathampstead Parish Council

Following the presentations a paper ballot was undertaken of councillors present. Ballot forms were presented, voting by a clear majority vote.

The Chairman thanked all candidates for their time and interest in Wheathampstead Parish Council. He also advised of a vacancy created by the resignation of Councillor Dante. If an election was not called by 3 October then Council would look to co-opt to this. He encouraged those not successful to reapply.

The Clerk acted as 'presiding officer' and declared Jonathan Booth duly elected.

Jonathan Booth was invited to attend early prior to Full Council on 28 September to sign the declaration of acceptance of office and so commence as councillor. Declaration of interests and code of conduct forms were to be completed at the earliest opportunity as was an informal induction process conducted by the Clerk

Resolved

To declare Jonathan Booth elected as parish councillor through the co-option process

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:40

Dated this day of 2017

Chairman