

PARISH REMUNERATION PANEL

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

MONDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2015

Present:-

Dr B.W. Kiernan

Mr S. Knott

Mr B. North

Officers present:-

Mrs Louisa Horton	- Democratic Services and Governance Manager
Mrs Rebekah Haines	- Democratic Services Officer

129. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Democratic Services & Governance Manager invited nominations from the Parish Remuneration Panel Members for the election of Chairman of the Parish Remuneration Panel.

DECISION

That Dr B.W. Kiernan be elected Chairman of the Parish Remuneration Panel.

130. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS

Knott	-	Item 4 – Parish Council Remuneration – consideration of
Mr S.		allowances and expenses for Parish Councillors.
Knott		
Nature of	-	Non-Pecuniary
Interest		
Extent of	-	Sister and Mother-in-law are members of Countesthorpe
Interest		Parish Council.

131. PARISH COUNCIL REMUNERATION – CONSIDERATION OF ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Considered - Report of the Democratic Services & Governance Manager.

Members considered emails relating to recommendations made by the Parish Remuneration Panel in 2004.

Following a query from a member of the public, the Panel defined what they consider as included in the allowances which was everything incurred incidental to the role other than travel or subsistence. This would include printing as an example and noted that if members had difficulty in printing a particular document, they should contact their parish or town clerk for assistance. Only travel and subsistence could be claimed as an expense.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That a basic allowance may be paid to a parish or town council's chairman only, or to all of its elected members.
2. That if allowances are to be paid to parish or town council's members, the amounts decided by the Parish Remuneration Panel in 2004 be used as a guide. Allowances are recommended not to exceed £200 per annum for each member.
3. That an allowance for the parish or town council's chairman could be of a higher level to that of other parish members. Allowances are recommended not to exceed £200 per annum for a chairman.
4. That an allowance for a parish or town council's vice-chairman be the same as other elected parish members, as the Regulations do not allow for an allowance to be paid specifically to a vice-chairman.
5. That expenses be claimed for travel and subsistence only.
6. That travel expenses should not be claimed as a result of travel within the parish.
7. That all travel mileage rates be aligned with HMRC rates and those contained in the Blaby District Council Allowances Scheme.
8. That all subsistence allowances be aligned with HMRC rates and those contained in the Blaby District Council Allowances Scheme.
9. That all allowances and expenses paid by parish and town councils be published on their websites at the end of each financial year.

Reason:

It is appropriate for the Parish Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to Parish and Town Councils who are considering making changes to their schemes for allowances and expenses for Parish Councillors.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.00 P.M.

