

HAMBLEDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 24 November 2017 at 19.00 in the Village Hall

Present: John Anderson (Chairman), Mary Grove, Mike Parry, Paul Pattinson, Stewart Payne and Philip Underwood; Jane Woolley (clerk); and two members of the public

FORMAL BUSINESS

1. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILOR

Arising from the resignation of Karen Jones and the requirement for the Council to co-opt a replacement as there had been no call for an election consequent on the advertising of the vacancy, the Chairman advised that six people had expressed an interest. Of these, two had subsequently decided that they were at present unable to commit the necessary time. However, the other four had responded to the invitation, as outlined in the process for filling a vacancy by co-option, to provide brief details about themselves, why they wanted to be Parish Councillors and why they considered themselves to be good candidates for the position.

The Chairman stressed the importance of Parish Councillors being able to work both with colleagues and on behalf of the whole village, as well as having appropriate skills for the task. He then gave brief oral summaries of the responses which had previously been circulated to Councillors and invited them to express their views.

All Councillors agreed on the quality of the submissions. Factors which had influenced their decisions included the extent to which each candidate was already involved in the village and its activities; a proven willingness to devote time to village matters; demonstrable evidence of being a team player; and availability, if so needed, on a day-to-basis.

Sean Sinnott was best judged to have met these criteria but, in agreeing that he be co-opted, Councillors paid tribute to the many good points that had been made in other submissions. All four candidates were thanked for their interest and the hope was expressed that the unsuccessful three would consider standing for election when these were next called, probably in May 2019.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.20