

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
11th MARCH 2016

APPLICATION FOR DISPENSATION BY COUNCILLORS FROM GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Recommendations / key decisions required:

To consider and determine the application

Reasons:

The subject matter of this report falls within the remit of the Committee

Scrutiny Committee recommendations / comments:

Not applicable

Exec Board Decision Required NO

Council Decision Required NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr E Dole (Leader)

Directorate

Chief Executives

Name of Head of Service:

Linda Rees-Jones

Report Author:

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Designations:

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
11TH MARCH 2016**

**APPLICATION FOR DISPENSATION BY COUNCILLORS FROM
GORSLAS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

An application has been received on behalf of elected members of Gorslas Community Council for the grant of a dispensation to speak and vote on matters relating to 3 recreation parks owned and maintained by the Community Council.

The Councillors have a personal interest in these matters pursuant to paragraph 10(2)(ix)(ee) of the code in that they are members of local Welfare Association Committees which are involved in the running of those parks.

The Councillors were not appointed to their roles on those committees by the Community Council.

The Councillor's interests are prejudicial as a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard that interest as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillors judgement of the public interest. For example when the Community Council is deciding whether or not to spend monies on the parks a member of the public could reasonably conclude that the fact a Councillor is a member of the relevant Welfare Association committee would influence their view as to whether the money should be spent on the park or on some other issue unconnected with the Association.

The Councillors have no direct financial interest in their respective welfare associations.

In September 2015 the Committee granted dispensations to 15 elected members of the Council in relation to the same matters. Those dispensations expire on the 11th March 2016.

In view of the continuing nature of these interests, the applicants ask that dispensation be granted for the remainder of their term of office.

If the committee is minded to grant these applications it is suggested that this be on ground 2(a) in the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations)(Wales) Regulations 2001, namely that the interest affects no fewer than half the members of the authority.

In granting a dispensation the Committee has absolute discretion as to how long it lasts for. If the committee is minded to limit the dispensation for a specific period, it may wish to consider doing so until the 10th June (3 months) or 9th September (6mths)

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

NO

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: L. Rees-Jones

Head of Administration and Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: L. Rees-Jones

Head of Administration and Law

(Please specify the outcomes of consultations undertaken where they arise against the following headings)

- 1. Scrutiny Committee**
Not applicable
- 2. Local Member(s)**
Not applicable
- 3. Community / Town Council**
Not applicable
- 4. Relevant Partners**
Not applicable
- 5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations**
Not applicable

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Legal file	DPSC-141	Legal Services, County Hall