



CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

Scheme of Delegation

DOCUMENT CONTROL	
Version Number	V1-2022
Adopted on	10 May 2022
Next Review	May 2023
Revised	June 2024

This Scheme of Delegation authorises the Town Clerk, who is the Council's Proper Officer and Responsible Financial Officer, Standing Committees and Sub- committees of the Council to act with delegated authority in the specific circumstances detailed herein.

1. Proper Officer and Responsible Financial Officer - Duties and Powers

1.1 Responsible Financial Officer

The Town Clerk shall be the Responsible Financial Officer to the Council and shall be responsible for the Town Councils accounting procedures in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations in force at any given time.

1.2 Proper Officer

The Town Clerk shall be the Proper Officer of the Council and as such is specifically legally authorised to:

- Receive declarations of acceptance of office;
- Receive and record notices from Councillors disclosing interests;
- Receive and retain plans and documents;
- Sign Notices or other documents on behalf of the Council;
- Receive copies of By-laws made by the Unitary Council;
- Certify copies of By-laws made by the Council;
- Sign and issue summonses to attend meetings of the Council.
- Give public notice of the time, place and agenda at least three clear days before a meeting of the Council (provided that the public notice with agenda of an extraordinary meeting of the Council convened by Councillors is signed by them in accordance with Standing Orders)
- Convene a meeting of the Council for the election of a new Chair of the Council, occasioned by a casual vacancy in that office.

In addition, the Town Clerk has the delegated authority to undertake the following matters on behalf of the Council:

- The day-to-day administration of services, together with routine inspection and control.
- Day to day supervision and control of all staff employed or engaged by the Council.
- Authorisation of routine expenditure within the agreed budget.

Delegated decisions and actions of the Town Clerk shall be in accordance with Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and this Scheme of Delegation and with directions given by the Council from time to time.

2. Delegated Powers re Planning

Planning applications shall be received by the Clerk who will provide details to all Councillors. Where no queries arise, the Clerk shall be delegated to inform the Planning Department within the time allocated. All Councillors will report directly back to the Clerk thereby avoiding discussion between members to prevent issues arising around pre-determination. Where queries arise the Chairman of the Policy and Resources and Planning Committee will call for the matter to be placed on the agenda of the next meeting or if they deem appropriate request a site meeting adhering strictly to legal procedures set by NALC and the Town Clerk will advise the Planning Authority that Chilton Town Council require time to consider this application.

3. Council

The following matters are reserved to the Council for decision, notwithstanding that the appropriate Committee(s) may make recommendations thereon for the Council's consideration.

- Setting the Precept;
- Borrowing money;
- Making, amending or revoking Standing Orders, Financial Regulations or this Scheme of Delegation.
- Making, amending or revoking By-laws;
- Making of Orders under any Statutory powers;
- Matters of principle or policy.
- Nomination and appointment of representatives of the Council to any other authority, organisation or body (excepting approved Conferences or meetings);
- Any proposed new undertakings;
- Prosecution or defence in a court of law;
- Nomination or appointment of representatives of the Council at any inquiry on matters affecting the Parish, excluding those matters specific to a committee;
- Approving the Annual Return;
- Confirming eligibility to exercise the General Power of Competence

4. Chilton Miners Welfare Charitable Trust

The Town Council is the sole Trustee of the Chilton Miner's Welfare Trust Charity. As sole Trustee, the Council delegates authority to the Chilton Miner's Welfare Trustee Meeting on all matters pertaining to the Trust, including financial matters.

5. Standing Committees

All committees should conduct their business taking into consideration environmental issues and sustainability

The **Policy and Resources Committee comprising of all Members of the Council** shall be delegated to make decisions on behalf of the Council in the following matters:

- All matters relating to Finance with the exception of those set out at paragraph 3.1 reserved by law for consideration by the full Council.
- Partnership Working
- Grants and Donations
- To make recommendations to Council on the Budgets of all Standing Committees.
- General Administration
- Civic Activities/Local Democracy
- Community Safety including CCTV
- Any other matter which may be delegated to it by the Council from time to time.
- To comment on planning applications received from the Planning Authority where queries have been raised in accordance with 2.4 above.
- Street Naming
- Licensing Matters
- Neighborhood Plan
- To comment on behalf of the Council on Local Plans, Structure Plans, Mineral Plans, Waste Plans, Regional Plans and any other Plans or Studies as considered appropriate.
- Maintenance and repair of all buildings owned by the Council

The **HR Committee comprising of 6 Members of the Council** shall be delegated to make decisions on behalf of the Council in the following matters:

Statutory and legal obligations relating to Human Resources (HR);

- standardisation of structure, policy and process and by establishing protocols and procedures to create strong working relationships within the Council.
- To oversee staff recruitment, selection and appointment of the Town Clerk and other staff within the Council staffing structure
- Salaries; Conditions of Service; Staff levels; Staff performance including reviews appraisals, sickness absence management
- All matters relating to Staff, based on recommendations made. This Committee may decide that it wishes to refer such matters to the Council for final decision, subject to the matters reserved to the Council for legal reasons.

The Appeals Sub- Committee, comprising of the remaining 6 Councillors who are not on the HR Committee; is delegated to make decisions on the behalf of the Council in the following matters:

- Appeals against decisions made by the Human Resources Committee in conflict Resolution, Grievance, Disciplinary and Capability matters.
- Dealing with Appeals to a final conclusion, only reporting to Council the actions it has taken at the end of the process.
- **In order to ensure as far as possible that such matters as Appraisal, Conflict Resolution Grievance, Disciplinary and Capability issues are dealt with professionally and in accordance with Employment legislation, all members of the Appeals Committee must agree to undertake training in these matters.**

It is vital that the Human Resources Committee and Appeals sub-committee keeps confidential its deliberations and decisions in cases of Conflict Resolution, Grievance, Disciplinary and Capability hearings, because if an Appeal against a decision is received it must, legally and in the interests of fairness, be heard again by elected members with no prior knowledge of the case.

In order to ensure as far as possible that such matters as Appraisal, Conflict Resolution Grievance, Disciplinary and Capability issues are dealt with professionally and in accordance with Employment legislation, all members of the Human Resources Committee and Appeals Sub- Committee must agree to undertake training in these matters.

The Cemetery Committee comprising of 6 Members of the Council shall be delegated to make decisions on behalf of the Council in the following matters:

- Cemetery
- Memorial Garden

The Allotments Committee comprising of 6 Members of the Council shall be delegated to make decisions on behalf of the Council in the following matters:

- Allotment
- Play Areas
- Open spaces
- Grounds Maintenance

The Community Committee comprising of 6 Members of the Council shall be delegated to make decisions on behalf of the Council in the following matters:

- Markets and Fairs
- Events and Celebrations

- Street Trading Permits
- Town Floral displays

The Committees may refer specific matters to the Council for a final decision if it they so wishes

Recommendation of the Committee's budget each financial year.

Any funding required outside of the set budget in any given financial year.

Any other matter which may be delegated to it by the Council from time to time.

There are no other Standing Committees, but they may be formed by resolution of the Council at any time and delegated powers may be decided upon at the time the Sub-committee is formed by means of a Minute detailing the Terms of Reference.

Working Groups/Parties

Working Groups/Parties may be formed by resolution of the Council or a Committee at any time. The work of such a Working Group/Party will be decided upon at the time it is formed by means of a Minute detailing the Terms of Reference. Each Working Group/Party will report back with recommendations to the Council or the Committee that formed it.

Delegation - Limitations

Committees and Sub Committees shall, at all times, act in accordance with the Councils Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and this Scheme of Delegation and, where applicable, any other rules, regulations, schemes, statutes, By-laws or orders made and with any directions given by the Council from time to time.