

Agenda Item 11 – Parish Councillor Dispensation (Cllr Scott)

The following information is the relevant section taken from Standing Orders to be considered when making a decision regarding this request:

CODE OF CONDUCT AND DISPENSATIONS

See also standing order 3(u).

- a All councillors and non-councillors with voting rights shall observe the code of conduct adopted by the Council.
- b Unless they have been granted a dispensation, a councillor or non-councillor with voting rights shall withdraw from a meeting when it is considering a matter in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest. They may return to the meeting after it has considered the matter in which they had the interest.
- c Unless they have been granted a dispensation, a councillor or non-councillor with voting rights shall withdraw from a meeting when it is considering a matter in which they have another interest if so required by the Council's code of conduct. They may return to the meeting after it has considered the matter in which they had the interest.
- d **Dispensation requests shall be in writing and submitted to the Proper Officer** as soon as possible before the meeting, or failing that, at the start of the meeting for which the dispensation is required.
- e A decision as to whether to grant a dispensation shall be made by the Proper Officer OR by a meeting of the Council, or committee or sub-committee for which the dispensation is required and that decision is final.
- f A dispensation request shall confirm:
 - i. the description and the nature of the disclosable pecuniary interest or other interest to which the request for the dispensation relates;
 - ii. whether the dispensation is required to participate at a meeting in a discussion only or a discussion and a vote;
 - iii. the date of the meeting or the period (not exceeding four years) for which the dispensation is sought; and
 - iv. an explanation as to why the dispensation is sought.
- g Subject to standing orders 13(d) and (f), a dispensation request shall be considered [by the Proper Officer before the meeting or, if this is not possible, at the start of the meeting for which the dispensation is required] OR [at the beginning of the meeting of the Council, or committee or sub-committee for which the dispensation is required].
- h **A dispensation may be granted in accordance with standing order 13(e) if having regard to all relevant circumstances any of the following apply:**
 - i. **without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited from participating in the particular business would be so great a proportion of the**

meeting transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business;

- ii. granting the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the Council's area; or
- iii. it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.

Address: c/o West Rainton and Leamside Parish Council

Date 20th April 2026

Dear Council

Application for Dispensation in Relation to activities related to the refurbishment, operation and management of Jubilee Hall.

I, Margaret Scott request the council to grant me a dispensation to enable me to participate and vote on any future parish council business concerning the above for the following reasons:

- Without the dispensation it will be difficult to co-ordinate and fulfil the roles of both Parish Councillor and Trustee of the Charity.
- The refurbishment of Jubilee Hall is in the interests of people living in the authority's area and granting this dispensation will enable the best interests of the community to be delivered in an open and honest manner.
- There is no commercial or pecuniary interest involved for the individuals named.

This dispensation is requested to last until the next parish elections in 2029 or the completion of the refurbishment of Jubilee Hall, whichever is the earlier.

Yours faithfully,



Margaret Scott

Parish Councillor