

Clerk Report information supporting the agenda.

11th March 2021

Item 9b Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish meeting is a meeting of the Parish not a Parish Council meeting. It can be called by the electorate. The Parish Council Chairman has called these meetings for many years Parish Meetings have to be held during the 1st of April – 1st June. It is an opportunity for the Parish Council to report to the Community the work they have carried out over the administration year. Usually, a guest speaker is invited to attend, and the Council and Committee Chairman provide reports. This is then followed by the guest speaker and a question and answer session.

A parish meeting may be convened by—

- (a) the chairman of the parish council, or
- (b) any two parish councillors for the parish, or
- (c) where there is no parish council, the chairman of the parish meeting or any person representing the parish on the district council, or
- (d) any six local government electors for the parish.

If the Chairman is in attendance, he or she has to preside over the meeting.

Council could consider hosting the meeting later than the deadline of 1st June 2021 if the proposed timeframe for Covid restrictions announced by Government are fulfilled and lockdown is lifted after 21st June 2021.

No decisions can be made at this meeting; however, a poll can be called. A poll may be demanded before the conclusion of a Parish meeting on any question arising at the meeting; but no poll shall be taken unless either the person presiding at the meeting consents or the poll is demanded by not less than ten, or one-third, of the local government electors present at the meeting, whichever is the less

If a poll is called the Monitoring Officer is contacted and a poll will be carried out on a similar basis as a by-election, at the cost of the Council.

Example: Should Ringmer Parish Council do a, b & c? The poll will count the results and advise Council of the results, but the Council does not have to act upon it.