



Moretonhampstead Parish Council

Scheme of Delegation

The Councils Scheme of Delegation authorises the Clerk to the Council and Standing Committees to act with delegated authority in the specific circumstances detailed.

The Parish Clerk is also the Councils Responsible Financial Officer and the Proper Officer and responsibility for the management of the organisation.

Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides:

- That a Council may delegate its powers (except those incapable of delegation) to a committee; or an officer.
- A Committee may delegate its powers to an officer.
- The delegating body may exercise Powers that have been delegated.

Proper Officer and Responsible Finance Officer

- To take action on any issue of such urgency, that it cannot wait until the next normal Council meeting. If circumstances permit, the Clerk would normally be expected to consult the Chairman or Vice Chairman if the Chairman is unavailable and take his/her view into account.
- To incur expenditure on behalf of the Council, which is necessary to carry out any repair, replacement or other work which is of such extreme urgency that it must be done at once, whether or not there is any budgetary provision for the expenditure, subject to a limit of £750.00.
- To take any action regarding minor repairs (up to a cost of £ 300.00) and to report minor matters to the relevant authority.
- Payment of all invoices, within agreed budget and subject to authorisation by two bank signatories. Authorisation can be made by email if face to face authorisations are not possible

Delegated actions shall be in accordance with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and in line with directions given by Council from time to time, and shall be reported to the next available Council meeting.

Under this delegation, where appropriate, the clerk may decide that an extraordinary meeting of the council be called to deal with the urgent matter.

Delegated Powers re Planning Delegation

Planning applications shall be received by the Clerk who will provide details to Councillors and where no queries arise by joint decision of all Councillors, the Clerk shall be delegated to inform the Planning Department within the time allocated of the decision of the Council. All Councillors will report directly back to the Clerk thereby avoiding discussion between members. Where queries arise the Chairman will call for a site meeting which may require an Extraordinary Meeting to decide upon the application. Adhering strictly to legal procedures set by NALC.

Staffing Management & Finance Committee

- To take decisions on hours in excess of core hours needed to enable projects to be completed or to deal with exceptional circumstances.

Staffing Committee

It will deal with HR issues and other contractual matter (except resignation of Staff members) and will have delegated authority to make all decisions relating to staff and their employment, except recruiting, termination and decisions on hours in excess of core hours.

Delegation – Limitations

All decisions taken under delegated authority will be in accordance with the Councils Standing Orders and Financial regulations and this Scheme of Delegation, and where applicable any other rules/regulations and legislation. All decisions will be reported to the first appropriate Council meeting.

The Council may delegate the power to make individual decisions on individual items to the Proper Officer/Responsible Finance Officer and its Committees as and when appropriate.

The Parish Clerk may do anything pursuant to the delegated power or duty which it would be lawful for the Council to do including anything reasonably implied or incidental to that power or duty.

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 (2014 SI No. 2095), which came into force on 6 August 2014, require a written record to be kept of certain decisions made by an officer of a parish council acting under delegated powers. The Clerk will keep a log of all decisions made under delegated powers and will arrange for these to be made open for public inspection via the Council website.