

1. REPORT SUMMARY

A report to councillors regarding eligibility following recent elections.

2. BACKGROUND

The General Power of Competence GPOC was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and is available to Parish Councils, subject to meeting certain eligibility criteria. Without GPOC, the council must rely on specific powers to act, granted by individual statutes. Adopting the power allows the council to do anything an individual can do, except where it is prohibited by law, without searching for a specific power. The power gives the council more flexibility in its actions.

To be eligible:

- At the moment the council resolves that it meets the criteria, the number of councillors elected at the last ordinary election or subsequent by-election, must equal or exceed two thirds of it's total number of councillors (seats, including those that might be vacant). Co-opted councillors do not count.
- The Clerk must hold either the Certificate in Local Council Administration CILCA or one of the sector specific higher education qualifications awarded by the University of Gloucestershire.

3. SUMMARY

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council has 16 seats. At the recent elections, 11 councillors were elected. The Interim Clerk, Trudi Deane, holds the CILCA qualification. The council meets the conditions described in The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence)(Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 and may adopt GPOC under Chapter 1 of the Localism Act 2011.

4. RECOMMENDATION

The Parish Council hereby confirms we meet the eligibility criteria for adoption of a General Power of Competence as defined in the Localism Act 2011 Chapter 1 and The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence)(Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012. The Parish Council resolves to adopt a General Power of Competence.