

AGENDA DOCUMENTATION FULL COUNCIL – JANUARY 2022

ITEM 11

Tree planting on Rushlake Green, Village Green.

The Parish Council received a two late grant applications from the Big Jubilee Lunch.

The first application will be considered at a later date.

The second application is regarding planting a tree to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee (please see separately circulated grant application)

Due to time constraints regarding the ordering of the sapling this item will need to be considered at Full Council in January:

“As well as requesting some help with funding for the Big Lunch, we should like to ask if the Council will consider covering the cost of planting a tree on or around the Green to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, together with an appropriate plaque. **If possible we should like this to be planted on the small triangle of grass opposite the Village Stores, but if by-laws prevent this then perhaps somewhere else around the Green.** We feel this would be a great way for the community to participate in The Queen's Green Canopy Project which is taking place nationally to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. “

“**PLEASE NOTE:** On the advice of English Woodlands, tree planting needs to take place between February-April and therefore in advance of the Big Lunch in June. Tree saplings for the Queen's Green Canopy are in demand and need to be ordered as soon as possible.

Sum requested £133.78. Total cost of project £133.78.”

ITEM 13

New Councillor co-option

The two councillor vacancies can be filled by co-option.

It is best practice to fill councillor vacancies as soon as practically possible.

My suggestion would be to open the application process from Wednesday 12th January until Thursday 10th February. This would allow almost a month for applicants to apply and leave a week for the Council to consider any applications before the Full Council meeting on Thursday 17th February.

It must be noted Bob Bowdler has asked the Council to try and ensure the vacancy is advertised on the Punnetts Town Facebook Community Page, the village newsletter, the surgery notice board, the Punnetts Town Village Hall and Primary School. I will endeavour to publicise the vacancy at all of the above.

ITEM 14

NALC Model letters

On the NALC Chief Executives Bulletin circulated to all Councillors on the 6th December it stated the following regarding remote council meetings:

We have been working with the LGA and others to lobby the government on remote council meetings. This included meeting officials this week to push them for an immediate response given the increased risks and tightening of restrictions, using examples of concerns raised by councils, including local councils, since the emergence of the Omicron variant and the recent severe weather in some parts of the country. And I'm pleased that the author Emma Kennedy, who became a local councillor in May, is supporting the campaign and, as a local constituent of Michael Gove MP, met with him today to press the case. However, in the meantime can I urge councils and councillors to consider using [two model letters for councillors and councils](#) to highlight the support of remote council meetings to your MP and ministers; these can be adapted and include examples of your own experiences.

Please see the two model letters circulated separately.