

## **Blaxton Parish Council**

### **Scheme of Delegation to the Parish Clerk**

#### **1. Introduction**

The scheme does not delegate any matter reserved by law or which by law may not be delegated to a Councillor or Officer. The following matters are only to be resolved by the full Council:

- The appointment of the Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
- Adoption of or change to Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, the Scheme of Delegation, and other Council policies
- Approval and adoption of the Council's Policy Framework
- Approval and adoption of the Council's Budget
- Setting of the Precept
- Determination of matters involving expenditure for which budget provision is not made or is exceeded
- The setting up of Committees and agreement/amendment of their terms of reference
- The adoption of the schedule of meetings for the year
- The making of bylaws
- Decisions to borrow money
- The annual approval of the statutory annual return
- Approval of the eligibility for the General Power of Competence

The powers and duties set out below are delegated to the Parish Clerk. The Parish Clerk is also the Council's Responsible Financial Officer and the Proper Officer and has responsibility for the management of the organisation.

The scheme will be reviewed on a regular basis as required by the Council and when a new Parish Clerk is appointed.

#### **2. Extent of Delegation**

2.1 All delegated functions shall be deemed to be exercised on behalf of and in the name of the Council.

2.2 The Parish Clerk will exercise these powers in accordance with:

- Approved budgets
- The Council's Financial Regulations
- The Council's Contract Procedure Rules
- The Council's Procurement Strategy
- The Council's Policy Framework and other adopted policies of the Council
- All statutory common law and contractual requirements.

2.3 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.

2.4 In addition, the Parish Clerk is authorised to undertake the day-to-day administration of the Council to include:

- Emergency expenditure up to £500 whether or not there is budgetary provision for the expenditure (subject to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations)
- Payment of all invoices, within agreed budget and subject to authorisation by Council in the next Parish Council meeting and administered according to its bank signatory procedure.
- Taking appropriate action arising from other emergencies (in consultation with the Chairman/Vice Chairman of Council as appropriate to the circumstances)

### **3. Urgent Decisions of Council**

- 3.1. Urgent decisions required between scheduled meetings of the council are delegated to the Parish Clerk in consultation with the Chairman of the Council.
- 3.2 Decisions made under this delegation will be reported to, and recorded in the minutes of the next Parish Council meeting.
- 3.3 Under this delegation, where appropriate, the Parish Clerk may decide that an extraordinary meeting of the council be called to deal with the urgent matter.

### **4 Planning Delegation to the Clerk**

- 4.1 The council delegates decisions arising under development control consultations to the Parish Clerk in consultation with all councillors.
- 4.2 Consultation may be by correspondence, including email, or in person. It may also take place at meetings of the council.
- 4.3 The Parish Clerk will arrange for relevant papers to be circulated to the councillors who should return their comments, to the clerk for determination of the council's response within the prescribed consultation period.
- 4.4. Delegated decisions will be reported to and recorded in the minutes of the next council meeting.
- 4.5. In respect of controversial or major development proposals, the Parish Clerk in consultation with the Chairman, may decide that an extraordinary meeting of the council be called to consider the matter.

### **5 Written Records**

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 either in minutes of meetings or via the Council website.

### **5. Approval and Reviews**

This scheme was approved by Council on **17 July 2024** and will be reviewed annually at its July Meeting.

Version 1 dated 17 July 2024

Reviewed 21.5.25- no changes

Reviewed 20.5.26- no changes