

## **IMPORTANT UPDATE REGARDING CORONAVIRUS**

The Coronavirus Bill has been given royal ascent so has come into law. From 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020. THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020 comes into being

This covers meetings until the 7th May 2021

Meetings can be cancelled without further notice.

There is no requirement to hold an Annual Council meeting this year, the Chairman (and any other appointees) continues to the next annual meeting, or such time as the Council may determine.

Meetings can be held "electronic, digital or virtual locations such as internet locations, web addresses or conference call telephone numbers"

To be classified as in attendance the Councillor must be able to hear and be heard (therefore they could phone in to a video conference call)

Meetings must still be properly convened and able to be attended by members of the public

The notice doesn't have to be put up in notice boards but must be up on the website.

There is no provision within the regulations in relation to Annual Parish and Town Meetings. However, currently these cannot take place face to face, however, they are still able to take place before June, so await further information

The regulations relate to virtual meetings and this is the preferred method, rather than agreed email decisions