

**SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Resignation of Councillor**

**Full Council – 18 December 2018**

**1. Introduction**

At the Full Council Meeting on 13 November 2018 it was reported that Michael Dickinson had resigned and that the vacancy would be advertised.

**2. Report Details**

- 2.1** The notice has been displayed in the Parish and Swindon Borough Council have confirmed that an election has not been called by 10 electors. The Parish Council must then co-opt a new Councillor.
- 2.2** As there is less than 6 months before the next ordinary election of the Parish Council, the Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 state in paragraph 6 that the word 'may' be substituted for the word 'must' and the vacancy can be left until the next ordinary election.
- 2.3** The Parish Council needs to make the decision whether they want to co-opt a new Councillor or wait until the election in May 2019.
- 2.4** The procedure to co-opt a new Councillor would be to first advertise the vacancy; request the competition of an application form; interview prospective Councillors before the Full Council meeting and then appoint by a secret ballot at the Full Council meeting.
- 2.5** The co-option would most likely take place at the Full Council meeting in February and that would mean that the new Councillor would attend 3 Full Council meetings in total. The new Councillor would have to be re-elected on 2 May 2019 along with all other Councillors.

**3. Recommendations**

- 3.1** That the views of the Parish Council are sought.