

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Allowances

Full Council – 14 May 2019

1. Introduction

In the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances (England) Regulations 2003 Part 5 Parish Councillors are entitled to receive an allowance and a decision regarding allowances is normally made at the Annual Parish Council.

2. Report Details

- 2.1** The allowance is available to every elected Councillors will be the same with the exception of the Chair, who can be paid more. The allowance is paid quarterly and is taxable.
- 2.2** The Councillor Allowance was considered as part of the budget process. As it was not known which councillors would be on the Council and whether they would want to take their allowance the budget for 2019/20 was set at £9,000. This budget would cover the Chair allowance to remain at £750 per annum and 22 Councillors to take their allowance at the same rate of £375 per annum.
- 2.3** It is entirely a matter for each Councillor to decide whether they wish to receive their allowance.
- 2.4** When an allowance is paid then expenses are normally only paid to Councillors that attend meetings or event outside of the parish and this would also need to be agreed.
- 2.5** The Chair can nominate a charity for the year so that if any allowances are not taken the balance will be donated to them at the end of the year.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1** That the Parish Council agree the payment of Councillor Allowance for 2019/20.
- 3.2** That the amount of the allowance for Councillors be set at £375 per annum and the Chair's Allowance be set at £750 per annum.
- 3.3** That expenses only be paid to Councillors when representing South Swindon Parish Council outside of the parish.
- 3.4** That unclaimed Councillor allowances are paid to a charity nominated by the Chair at the end of the financial year.