

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

General Power of Competence

Full Council – 15 May 2018

1. Introduction

The 'General Power of Competence' was introduced as part of the Localism Act 2011 and the Parish Council should confirm they are in a position to exercise this power every year.

2. Report Details

- 2.1** The Parish Council meets the criteria to use this additional power. The criteria are that two-thirds of the total number of Councillors must be elected and the Clerk must hold a Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA).
- 2.2** The 'General Power of Competence' allows a Parish Council to do anything that an individual can do without the need to find the power in another Act. For example, the Parish Council could decide to run a shop or pub or give their funds to their favourite charity.
- 2.3** The Parish Council is currently using the 'General Power of Competence' to operate Old Town Library directly.
- 2.4** The suggestion is that the Parish Council should always look for the powers to carry out their functions in the current legislation and when the 'General Power of Competence' is used this should be contained in the resolution.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1** That the 'General Power of Competence' is adopted for 2018/19.