

Wiltshire Council

Council

18 October 2016

Extended Leave of Absence – Councillor Helen Osborn

Purpose of Report

1. To ask Council to consider a request from Councillor Helen Osborn for a further extension of office beyond the six month period of non-attendance due to ill health.

Main considerations of the Council

2. Under Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972, if a member of a local Authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months, from the date of his or her last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority or as a representative of the authority on an outside body, he or she shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the Authority.

Background

3. The report previously considered by Council at its annual meeting on 10 May 2016 is attached as background information which sets out the detail. At that meeting, Council resolved as follows:
 - a) That Council approves the request from Councillor Helen Osborn for an extension beyond the six month period of non-attendance on the grounds of ill health.
 - b) That such an extension be granted until the end of October 2016 which would allow for any request for a further extension being considered by Council at its meeting on 18 October 2016. In the event of that meeting either being cancelled or postponed, such an extension to remain in place until after the next available meeting of the Council.
4. Councillor Helen Osborn continues to be unwell and therefore unable to attend meetings of the Council.
5. Councillor Helen Osborn's Lambrook Division continues to be looked after by Councillor John Knight, who is happy to continue to do so. This is also supported by Councillor Knight's Group Leader, Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE.

Proposals

- a) **That Council approves the request from Councillor Helen Osborn for a further extension beyond the six month period of non-attendance on the grounds of ill health.**
- b) **That such an extension be granted until the end of February 2017.**

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Appendix

Report to Council – 10 May 2016

Background Papers

None