

CABINET – 7 MARCH 2018

VACANCY ON THE DISTRICT COUNCIL – MILFORD DISTRICT WARD

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A vacancy has occurred in the Milford Ward of the District Council following the death of Cllr Mrs Sophie Beeton. The ward comprises the MC (Milford 1), MD (Milford 2) and HF (Everton ward of Hordle Parish Council) polling districts.
- 1.2 Cllr Mrs Beeton also served on the Milford Parish Council and a vacancy on that Council also exists.
- 1.3 The Local Government electorate in Milford District Ward is 4,316.

2. ARRANGEMENTS TO FILL THE VACANCIES

- 2.1 The law requires that, when a vacancy in these circumstances arises, notice of the vacancy on the District Council must be given. This was done on Monday 19 February. The law provides further that, if a request for an election to fill the vacancy is made by two or more local government electors for the area, an election must follow. Tentative arrangements have been made for a by-election to be held on 5 April 2018.
- 2.2 The law for filling a vacancy on a Parish Council differs from that applicable to Principal Authorities. For Parish Councils, a request for an election by 10 electors must be submitted within 15 days of the notice of the vacancy being given. If no such request is received, the Parish Council may co-opt a person who would have been qualified to stand for election. If a request for an election in the required terms is received, it is planned to hold the election to the Parish Council on the same day as that for the District Council. The closing date for the receipt of a request for a parish by-election is Monday 26 February.
- 2.3 There are three polling stations in the Milford District Ward - the Milford Village Hall, the All Saints Church Hall and St Mary's Church Hall in Everton. The managers of all three premises have indicated their willingness to make the halls available for use on 5 April, if required. The count will be conducted at the All Saints Church Hall following the close of poll.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cost of the by-election, if it is not combined with a Parish Council election, is estimated at approximately £6,500. This cost will be met from existing budgets.

4. CRIME & DISORDER, ENVIRONMENTAL AND EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are none.

5. RECOMMENDATION:

5.1 The Cabinet is requested to note this report.

Further information:
Rosemary Rutins
Service Manager, Democratic Services &
Member Support
Tel: (023) 8028 5588
Email: rosemary.rutins@nfdc.gov.uk

Background Papers:
Published documents