

All local councils have a legal duty (Local Government Act 1972) to hold an Annual General Meeting in May and the first item of business to be the election of the Chairman of the Council (now referred to in this document as Mayor). Other appointments (note not an election but an appointment) such as Deputy Mayor, appointments to Committees, representatives on outside bodies, etc are not a legal requirement.

This duty has been removed until May 2021 by the (The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 - Regulation 4(2) Where an appointment would otherwise be made or require to be made at an annual meeting of a local authority, such appointment continues until the next annual meeting of the authority or until such time as that authority may determine. **As you will** already be aware the same Regulations enabled the Council to meet remotely.

Therefore, the Town Council needs to resolve one of the following options on how it would like to respond to Regulation 4(2). The options are detailed below and when considering how to proceed, Councillors may wish to be aware that not all members are currently able to access remote meetings of the Council.

1. No Annual General Meeting is held in May and that current Mayor (and other appointments) remain until May 2021. An ordinary meeting could be held, if necessary, in May to deal with any urgent matters.
2. The Annual General Meeting takes place in person at Hamilton House, as soon as government rulings allow, perhaps in late summer/early autumn and the existing arrangements remain in place until then. Please note the appointments made at this date would only remain in post until May 2021.
3. An Annual General meeting proceeds, on Tuesday 26 May, as previously scheduled but remotely via Zoom with on-line streaming for members of the public to observe. The first item of business will be the election of the Mayor. Other appointments will be dealt with and all will remain in post until May 2021.