



Council

10 November 2025

APPOINTMENT OF TWO PARISH COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Report by:

Monitoring Officer

Contact Officer:

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Purpose / Summary:

To approve the appointment of two Parish Councillor Representatives to the Standards Committee until May 2027.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Councillor Dennis Dannatt (Gainsborough Town Council) and Councillor Stephen Riley (Grasby Parish Council) are appointed to serve as members of the Standards Committee (without voting rights) until the Annual Council Meeting in May 2027 (the next planned all out elections).

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: The Local Government Act 1972 provides that a Council may include persons who are not members of the authority on a committee.

Under the Localism Act 2011 local authorities have the discretion to establish a standards committee

While a principal authority *may* choose to include a parish councillor on its standards committee (if chooses to establish one) as a matter of local discretion or best practice, it is not a statutory requirement imposed by the Localism Act 2011.

West Lindsey has previously made a local decision, given it is a heavily parished area, to include provision for non-voting parish councillor representation.

Financial : FIN/

The role is a voluntary one but does allow for the claiming of mileage (£0.45p/mile) and subsistence.

These costs can be met from existing budgets.

Staffing : None

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights : None

Risk Assessment : None

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

None

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

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No

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Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

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No

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1. Background

- 1.1 A principal authority *may* choose to include a parish councillor on its standards committee, as a matter of local discretion or best practice, but it is not a statutory requirement imposed by the Localism Act 2011.
- 1.2 West Lindsey is of the belief it is good practice and beneficial for a Standards Committee to appoint non-voting Parish Council representatives, and has previously made a local decision, given the district is a heavily parished area, to include provision for non-voting parish councillor representation on its Standards Committee.
- 1.3 The Committees Terms of Reference allow for up to three non-voting parish representatives, but in recent years has been operating with only one such Member, Councillor Liz Hillman (Saxilby).
- 1.4 The normal period of office of the parish members is four years and all such members retire along with elected Members in the year of scheduled all out District and Parish Elections (May 2027)
- 1.5 The resignation of Mrs Liz Hillman as a Parish Councillor, earlier in the year, automatically resulted in her term of office on the Standards Committee ceasing.
- 1.6 The role was advertised via Parish Councils and two applicants applied, Councillor Dennis Dannatt (Gainsborough Town Council) and Stephen Riley (Grasby Parish Council).
- 1.7 The role is volunteer based but does allow for claiming of mileage at £0.45/mile and subsistence.
- 1.8 Interviews were held on Wednesday 29 October 2025.
- 1.9 The interview panel comprised Councillor A Duguid, Chairman of Standards Committee, and Mrs Lisa Langdon, Monitoring Officer.
- 1.10 Both applicants were successful and were offered the roles, subject to approval by Council.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Councillor Dennis Dannatt (Gainsborough Town Council) and Councillor Stephen Riley (Grasby Parish Council) are appointed to serve as members of the Standards Committee (without voting rights) until the Annual Council Meeting in May 2027 (the next planned all out elections).