

# STAPLEHURST PARISH COUNCIL

<b>Council, Committee, Working Group</b>	Council
<b>Meeting Date Time &amp; Venue</b>	26th June 2023, 7:30pm South Hall, Staplehurst Community Centre
<b>Report Author</b>	Clerk
<b>Item &amp; Title</b>	Parish Basic Allowances 2023/24
<b>Resolution</b>	To note that Parish Councillors Cllrs Riordan, Perry, Alesi, Arger, Castro, Eerdeken, Farragher, Hotson, McLaughlin, McPhee and Sharp have agreed to forgo their Basic Parish Allowance

## Background

Section 100, Local Government Act 2000 makes provision to enable Parish Councils to pay Councillors Allowances;

- Allowances made payable to members of a Parish Council
- Travelling and substance allowances payable to members
- Allowances payable to members for attending conference and meeting

The Parish Councillors who have been co-opted are **not** entitled to the allowances, only those who stood at the last Parish Council election, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

Traditionally Parish Councillors in Staplehurst have not taken the Basic Parish Allowance as they have seen this as a voluntary role. However, it may also put off some potential Councillors from being a Parish Councillor.

Under Regulation 27 a Parish Council must consider the Independent Remuneration Panel report – see attached report dated March 2022 in **appendix A**.

If the Parish Council agrees to pay the Councillors allowances:

- **Basic Parish Allowance** – 10% of MBC = £564, note tax, national insurance etc applies.
- **Travel**– 0.45p per mile (car) – out of Parish
- **Subsistence** - in-line with MBC subsistence policy below

“are entitled to claim a subsistence allowance when, in attending meetings which relate to functions of the Council, they are kept away from their normal place of residence for significant periods of time at certain times of day. Subsistence will only be paid upon the production of a receipt for the purchase of a required meal. If Councillors or Co-opted Members are attending a meeting or function where a meal is provided for them they are not entitled to claim a subsistence allowance. If a Councillor or Co-opted Member attends an approved Conference which includes an overnight stay away from his/her usual place of residence the Councillor or Co-opted Member can claim the cost of an evening meal up to a maximum of £20 per head, provided they submit a receipt with the Travelling and Subsistence Claim Form. Members and Co-opted Members are reminded that any Travelling and Subsistence Claim Form should be submitted within two months of the approved duty for which they are claiming.

## Parish Chairman

Chairmans allowance -15% of MBC = £845, note Tax, National Insurance etc applies.

It is the Clerk's duty to write to all eligible Councillors, sent 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023. A Parish Councillor has to respond to the Clerk in writing to forgo their Basic Parish Allowances. The following Parish Councillors

# STAPLEHURST PARISH COUNCIL

have forgone their Parish Allowance; Cllrs Riordan, Perry, Alesi, Arger, Castro, Eerdekenes, Farragher, Hotson, McLaughlin, McPhee and Sharp

## **Transparency**

No Councillors decided to receive their Parish Allowance of £564 minus tax and national insurance.

This report will be placed on the Parish Council website.

**Additional information. Supporting information is available in the office.**