

Addendum.

Please note.--The above Minutes were approved by all members of Lutton Parish Council with the exception of Mr.Eadie,whose request that the following issues should be added was granted at the meeting held on August 3rd.2010,together with the Chairmans response.This addendum is provided in order to prevent further delay in providing the Minutes for the general public.

Mr.Eadie made these objections with regard to the election of Parish Clerk.The Chairmans response is also provided.

A.- He suggested that one councillor should not have voted on this matter because of a "close personal interest" in one of the two candidates.

B. He stated that the Chairman merely "assumed that she had a vote" at this Council meeting.

C. He further stated "There was seven Councillors in attendance,plus the Chairman,which should constitute a Quorum for the purpose of validating a ballot."

D. He asserted that the Chairman had "pre-arranged that the ballot would be carried out,as a secret ballot,by providing a slip of paper with a tick box alongside each candidate.",stating that his suggestion of providing a signature should have been adopted.

E. He stated that the Chairman then adjourned the meeting in order to "consult with a Councillor who was absent from the meeting " to give him the "benefit of the vote."

F. He finally asserts that the first knowledge he had of "the actual appointment was when Mr. Dupontet delivered an Agenda to my house on the 18th April 2010."

He finally suggests that each Parish Councillor should be given a book of rules by the Clerk "before the next meeting."

Responses Made By The Chairman

A.Following my husband's death on November 27th and funeral on December 8th.2009 ,the date originally scheduled to be the last Parish Council meeting of 2009,when my husband would have tendered his resignation,it would be necessary to appoint a new Clerk. My stay with my son in York being prolonged due to atrocious weather conditions,I arranged by telephone for the post to be duly advertised,as regulations demand, and upon my return home I undertook all the clerical responsibilities involved Two candidates applied for the vacant post of Clerk.

It was then rumoured that one of the candidates was related to a Parish Councillor, thereby querying his impartiality in the voting procedure.Since the Councillor concerned was neither directly nor indirectly related to this candidate ,his degree of impartiality was akin to that of most voters on this issue, especially since no canvassing had been involved . I now respond to the above statements.

A.--Mr.Eadie queried the Councillors' right to vote during the first of two election procedures,during which the latter,clearly upset,volunteered to abstain from voting.This suggestion was rejected by other Parish Councillors.

B. The Chairman did not assume that she possessed the right to vote .As a serving member of Luttons Parish Council for twenty-six years ,and being in possession of the legal documentation supplied by the "Yorkshire Councils' Association"she was fully acquainted with its requirements..Moreover,she had previously given Mr.Eadie this assurance .verbally and in public.

C. The seven Councillors plus the Chairman,in possession of her personal vote ,constituted the Quorum which resulted in the tied vote and subsequent meeting to elect the Clerk

D. Since the first election process ,based upon written applications,had resulted in a tied vote, and bearing in mind the atmosphere experienced during that process, two Councillors suggested that a second election should be held involving the personal presence of each candidate and an individual ballot vote to avoid any pressure.This is merely the procedure adopted in any democratic election procedure.

E. A second tied vote having resulted,the Chairman,following consultation with her fellow Councillors, presented the opportunity to vote upon this issue to a long-serving member of Luttons Parish Council ,absent due to the well-known pressures of the lambing season in any rural area.The Chairman offered him the opportunity to exercise his right to vote,based purely upon the written applications provided by the two applicants and his own personal opinions.

F. I personally telephoned every member of Luttons Parish Council to inform them of the election result and Mr.Eadie's wife informed me herself that he had already been told of the appointment that very morning whilst out in the village,a considerable time before the new Clerk was in a position to either prepare or deliver the Agenda for the next Parish Council meeting , Books of Rules are ordered.