

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

General Power of Competence

Full Council – 21 May 2018

1. Introduction

The 'General Power of Competence' was introduced as part of the Localism Act 2011 and the Parish Council is in a position to decide whether to exercise this power.

2. Report Details

- 2.1** The Parish Council meets the criteria to use this additional power. The criteria are that two-thirds of the total number of Councillors must be elected and the Clerk must hold a Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA).
- 2.2** The 'General Power of Competence' allows a Parish Council to do anything that an individual can do without the need to find the power in another Act.
- 2.3** The 'General Power of Competence' has to be confirmed annually at the Annual Parish Council that the Council still meets the criteria. The Parish Manager and Clerk each hold the Certificate in Local Council Administration and over two thirds of the Councillors were elected in May 2017.
- 2.4** The suggestion is that the Parish Council should always look for the powers to carry out their functions in the current legislation and when the 'General Power of Competence' is used this should be contained in the resolution.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1** That the 'General Power of Competence' is adopted for the Municipal year 2018/19.