

Report for Nantwich Town Council Policy Committee

Item 6

Date of Meeting: 11th March 2021

Petitions Policy

1. Purpose of Report

To consider proposals for the introduction of a Petitions Policy,

2. Background

In January 2021 Councillor John Statham requested that the council considered implementing a petitions policy as part of its wider efforts to improve the democratic process and involvement of residents in decision making.

In addition, at the last meeting of the Policy Committee in January the committee considered the introduction of a Community Engagement Strategy and agreed that the introduction of both policies would compliment each other. The committee supported the draft proposals of the Community Engagement Strategy and agreed to hold recommending its adoption until proposals were brought forward for a Petitions Policy.

3. Considerations

The Town Clerk had drafted the attached draft Petitions Policy drawing on examples of existing policies from other town and parish councils, using the best elements of a couple of different policies in an attempt to have a policy that meets the needs of Nantwich Town Council.

During earlier discussions by members when the request was first discussed, members did raise the concern of ensuring a petitions policy that was not a policy which could be taken advantage of by an extremely small number of residents, the policy should allow for a fair representation of residents.

The Clerk has provided suggested numbers for a valid petition which members are asked to consider and approve or amend as required.

4. Recommendations

4.1 That members considered the attached policy and recommend adoption to Full Council.

5. Financial Implications

There would be no financial implications as a result of this report.

6. Equalities Impact

There would be no equalities impact as a result of this report.

7. Personnel Implications

There would be no personnel implications as a result of this policy.

8. Environmental implications

There would be no environmental implications as a result of this report.

9. Consultation

The adoption of such a policy will allow for great involvement with the community and its residents.