Ashby Herringfleet & Somerleyton Parish Council

POLICY - CHAIR & VICE CHAIR MAXIMUM TERMS OF OFFICE

1. A person proposed for the role of Chair should previously have served as Vice Chair or Chair. Ideally a new Chair will be the previous year's Vice Chair.
2. The Chair should serve a maximum of 3 consecutive one-year terms in the role. This person should not be eligible for election as Chair or Vice Chair for 3 years after leaving office no matter how many terms they have served.
3. The Vice Chair should serve a maximum of 3 consecutive one-year terms in the role. This person should not be eligible for election as Vice Chair for 3 years after leaving office no matter how many terms they have served. However, they would be encouraged to seek election as Chair, when the rules above would apply.
4. It is recommended that a new Vice Chair will have served at least 3 years as a Parish Councillor before their first election to the role.

This policy was adopted by Ashby Herringfleet & Somerleyton Parish Council on 12th January 2023
Policy last reviewed September 2024
Next review May 2027

Background to the policy: Should one person remain in post for a long period it will have a detrimental effect on the Parish Council because:

- • the Parish Council will reflect only one person's leadership
- • fewer people will have sufficient experience to take over should the Chair suddenly become unable to continue
- • a vibrant Parish Council depends on continually questioning its approach and a regular change of leadership ensures this