

Item 11 - Appointment of New Responsible Finance Officer

Recommendation:

That Lesley Smyth be appointed Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) to Arnside Parish Council with retrospective effect from 1 October 2021.

Process:

The role of RFO was advertised via CALC, the Arnside Parish Council Website and local social media. Five expressions of interest were received, and two strong candidates were shortlisted and selected for interview. They completed a short written test when they were asked to identify anything of significance in a budget followed by a 30 minute interview with the Clerk and Chair.

Both candidates presented well at interview. The decision to appoint Lesley was made on the strength of her experience in the requirements of the role and in the public sector as well as her ability to demonstrate a clear understanding of budgets in the test.

Further shortlisting details are available to Councillors on request.