

**QUEEN'S PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

To: COUNCIL  
Date: 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014

Contact for this report: Locum Director

Subject: **POWERS, DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES**

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1. The purpose of this report is to bring Members up-to-date on the items that have already been discussed and agreed by the Temporary Council and to introduce the General Power of Competence.
2. Item 7.1. lists the documents that have already been researched, discussed and agreed by the Temporary Council. However, the Queen's Park Community Council is required to endorse these documents which will be reviewed on an annual basis or more frequently if required.
3. Item 7.2. Came and Company quoted £842.00 for insurance cover based on the Council's current situation with the proviso that cover could be extended at any time depending on the Council's future commitments/activities.
4. Item 7.3. In order for the Queen's Park Community Council to be notified of planning applications and to be able to formally comment, the Council needs to advise Westminster Council of this request.
5. Item 7.4. At the present time, parish/town and community councils can do only those things for which it has a specific power. Although these powers are quite extensive there are some restrictions. From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 eligible councils could use the General Power of Competence which will enable them to do much more.

The Secretary of State has laid down the requirements of eligibility which are three-fold: (1) that two-thirds of the Council has been elected [or stood for election], (2) that the clerk is qualified and (3) that the clerk has undergone training in the general power of competence through CiLCA module 7 2012.

Eligibility under the 2011 Act can be assumed by resolution at any time provided that the conditions can be met and must be confirmed at the first annual meeting following ordinary elections.

**Officer Recommendation: Council RESOLVES**

- (1) to adopt the policy documents listed on the agenda;**
- (2) endorses the Insurance arrangements made with Came and Company;**
- (3) formally advises Westminster Council that it wishes to be consulted on all planning applications affecting its area and authorises the Director to submit comments following decisions at Planning meetings, and**
- (4) to adopt the General Power of Competence having fulfilled all the criteria.**