



8 September 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Response

Query

On 15 August 2021, the following request was made of Moulton Parish Council:

Please give details of all communications between Cllr Jennings, Cllr Capstick, Cllr Harding and any parishioners regarding the casual vacancy as per the notice posted on the Village notice board during the month of July 2021.

Please include, dates of one to one meetings, telephone calls, emails and any other electronic communications.

Please give details of the date and method of resignation of Cllr Dillon.

Response

The Freedom of Information Act conveys a right on anyone to request information from a public authority. The parish council does not normally keep records of one-to-one meetings, telephone calls and electronic communications; councillors will interact with parishioners without necessarily formally informing the parish council. As the council does not keep these records, there is nothing for the council to disclose.

Therefore, the only possible source of information would be "e-mail" and the councillors named above were asked to provide all e-mails to and from parishioners that was sent or received during the month of July 2021, for review.

Within the legislation of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Section 40 covers personal data of third parties and is an absolute exemption. Moulton Parish Council would also apply a public interest test to ascertain if maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

However, no e-mails to or from parishioners were sent or received regarding the casual vacancy, and therefore no public interest test needed to be applied.

Cllr Dillon resigned on 13th July 2021 by writing to the chair of Moulton Parish Council.