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SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

**For the Full Council Meeting of Lancing Parish Council, to be held on
Wednesday 1 March 2017 in the Council Chamber, Parish Hall, South Street at 7.00p.m.**

107. Report(s) of the Clerk:-

107.5 Pollution Risk Forecasting

Since 2014, Lancing Parish Council has taken advantage of being part of a Pollution Risk Forecasting system, also known as Short Term Pollution scheme, in partnership with the Environment Agency (EA) and Adur District Council (ADC), to identify potential sources of pollution and to warn the public when seawater quality was expected to be poor.

In summary, the EA undertakes water sampling seven days a week, from May to September, and a daily text is sent an ADC officer. In the event of an alert, the ADC officer displays posters at Lancing Beach Green to advise the public of reduced water quality. These posters must be in place within one hour of receiving the text (usually by 09:45). By warning the public of reduced water quality, the posters not only fulfil a public health responsibility, but also allow potentially elevated water samples to be discounted. The importance of PRF was highlighted following the 2014 bathing season as it was identified that the poster scheme had directly prevented Lancing Beach Green from being classified 'Poor'. Furthermore, Lancing Beach Green would have then been ineligible for 2015 and 2016 PRF.

However, the EA and ADC have recently undergone staffing restructures and whilst the EA are still able to carry out the water sampling, ADC has advised that it is no longer able to undertake the work carried out on behalf of Lancing Parish Council free of charge.

There are two options to ensure the continuation of this important work:-

- a) ADC can carry out the work at a cost of £2,050 for the 2017 bathing season; or
- b) Lancing Parish Council carries out the work itself.

It is considered that the work carried out by ADC is of great value to the Parish Council and should continue for the 2017 bathing season with a view to Parish Council staff (and possibly willing Councillors) being trained up during the year to take over the work from the 2018 bathing season. It can be confirmed that there is scope in the 2017/18 budget to cover the cost of this work.

It is disappointing that these details have only just been received and a decision is required as soon as possible to satisfy EA timescales.

Recommendation – That Adur District Council be requested to carry out the Pollution Risk Forecasting work on behalf of Lancing Parish Council for the 2017 bathing season at a cost of £2,050 with a view to the Parish Council being trained up during the year to take over the work from the 2018 bathing season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Plant', is written in a cursive style.

Helen Plant
Acting Clerk to the Council
24 February 2017