

**RESOLUTION TO EXTEND 6 MONTH RULE – SECTION 85 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

To: Council  
Date: 16 October 2014  
Author: Principal Democratic Services Officer

[P102]

1.0 **PURPOSE**

1.1 To consider a further extension of the 6 month rule for Councillor Philip Read, having regard to the circumstances of his absence from meetings.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That Council approves an extension of the 6 month rule for Councillor Philip Read on ill-health grounds until the end of the municipal year and expresses its best wishes to him for a speedy recovery.

3.0 **BACKGROUND/OPTIONS**

3.1 Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 states that “if a Member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he shall, unless the failure was due to some good reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the authority.” Attendance can be at any committee or sub-committee, or at any joint committee, joint board or other body where the functions of the authority are discharged or who were appointed to advise the authority on any matter relating to the discharge of their functions.

3.2 Councillor Philip Read has been unable to attend meetings recently on ill-health grounds. The last meeting he attended was a Licensing Committee meeting on 12 February 2014. Council on 15 May 2014 approved an extension of the 6 month rule for Councillor Philip Read on ill-health grounds until the end of the current year. Councillor Read has undergone further treatment recently and is recovering at home. Under the circumstances, it is requested that Council approve a further extension of the 6 month rule for Councillor Read until the end of the municipal year and that Council’s best wishes be conveyed to Councillor Read for a speedy recovery. This would not prevent Councillor Read from returning to meetings at any time, if his health allowed, but would give flexibility and prevent further recourse to Council before the District Council Elections.

#### 4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

---

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
None	Room 214B The Grange, Ely	Tracy Couper – Principal Democratic Services Officer (01353) 616278 E-mail: <a href="mailto:tracy.couper@eastcambs.gov.uk">tracy.couper@eastcambs.gov.uk</a>