

Question from Mr. C.J. Grover, Bromyard

Hereford Council owns Bromyard Downs and their management is formally delegated to the Commons Management Committee through Brockhampton Group Parish Council. The Committee consists of 12 members, eight of whom are appointed by the Parish Council from their own members and four are commoners elected annually by other commoners at the Annual Meeting of Commoners held in April. In the two previous years requests have been made to the Clerk in good time to publish the electoral procedure for this annual election and provide a copy of the List of Commoners. No list of commoners is available for candidates, no proxy votes are allowed for the election and only commoners present at the meeting can vote. As this is an election to a public body responsible for the management of Hereford Council property, will the Council confirm at the next meeting in April 2007 -

1. that normal electoral procedures should prevail since there is no published or approved Management Committee or Parish Council constitution rules to suggest otherwise.
2. in the interests of local democracy proxy votes are permitted.
3. the list of 90 or so commoners is made available to candidates on request
4. the Commoners Annual General Meeting is a public meeting.