

Councillor Attendance – briefing note

A Councillor who is absent from all meetings of the Council for a period of six months automatically ceases to be a member of the Council unless they have been given leave of absence by the Council before the expiry of that six-month period – s.85 Local Government Act 1972

Apologies need to be recorded and voted upon. This is because 6 months unauthorised absence needs to be recorded.

Explanation: the Parish Council may agree that a councillor KNOWN to be dealing with a serious health concern be authorised not to attend meetings, as authorised absence doesn't count towards the 6-month rule, but does enforce the rule against a councillor who just doesn't turn up for no good reason.

Badgeworth Parish Council will:

- **'Accept' apologies from Councillors where there is a serious health concern**
- **'Receive' apologies in other instances. (This will count towards the 6-month rule)**

Note – decisions cannot be backdated.