

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Minutes of a special meeting of the Standards Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in Committee Room 1, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover, on Wednesday 9th June 2010 at 1000 hours.

PRESENT:-

Independent Members: B. Betts, A. Gascoyne, J. Jaffray, R. Lilley, D. Wright and J. Yates.

Parish Council Members: - T. Munro, K. Reid and H. Wright.

Members: - M. Dooley, H. Gilmour, V. P. Mills, A. M. Syrett and H. Ward.

Officers:-

S.E.A. Sternberg (Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer), A. Turner, (Legal and Standards Officer), K. Shillito (Principal Solicitor), A. Bluff (Democratic Services Officer – observing) and K. Rodda (Democratic Services Officer).

36. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from K. Belshaw (Independent Member) and J. Hill (Independent Member)

37. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Moved by Councillor A.M. Syrett, seconded by Councillor H. Gilmour
RESOLVED that J. Yates be elected as Chair of the Standards Committee for the ensuing year.

J. Yates - Chair

38. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Moved by Councillor H. Gilmour, seconded by Councillor A. M. Syrett
RESOLVED that M. Dooley be appointed as Vice Chair of Standards Committee for the ensuing year.

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39. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Min No.	Name	Level of Interest
41	H. Gilmour	Personal and Prejudicial

40. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Moved by K. Reid, seconded by Councillor M. Dooley

RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference for the Standards Committee be agreed.

Councillor H. Gilmour had declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in the following item and left the meeting at this point.

41. ARRANGEMENTS FOR A HEARING INTO A COMPLAINT AGAINST A MEMBER.

The Solicitor to the Council and the Monitoring Officer presented the report, and explained how a complaint had been received against a Parish Councillor. This had been investigated and recommended for a hearing. The matter had been referred to the Principal Judge of the First Tier Tribunal asking for the Tribunal to hear the matter. If however the Principal Judge declined the request the matter would be heard locally.

It was explained to the meeting that authority would need to be given to the Solicitor to the Council to make necessary arrangements to allow this to take place, and how delegations to the Solicitor to the Council were needed for this purpose. These should if approved be put in the Solicitor to the Council's Delegation Scheme in the Constitution.

It was also confirmed at the meeting how the new members to the Standards Committee would be given the appropriate training to enable them to take part in future Standards hearings.

Moved by K. Reid, seconded by T. Monroe.

RESOLVED that authority be given to the Solicitor to the Council to make all the arrangements necessary for the pre hearing and hearing processes in this particular case under Regulation 18 of the Standards Committee (England) regulations 2008 or any replacement regulations.

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RECOMMENDED that the following delegations to the Solicitor to the Council be included in the Council's Constitution:

- 1) Power to convene hearings panels to determine complaints against members and to appoint members of the Standards Committee to sit at such hearings.
- 2) To make all necessary arrangements for the pre hearing and hearing processes involved in hearing complaints against members under Regulation 18 of the Standards Committee (England) regulations 2008 or any replacement regulations.

(Council)

The meeting closed at 1012 hours.