

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Standards Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in Committee Room 1, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover, on Tuesday 4th December 2012 at 1400 hours.

PRESENT:-

J. Yates - Chair

Cooptees: - J. Jaffray

Members: - Councillors M.J. Dooley, H.J. Gilmour, D.S. Watson and G.O. Webster.

Independent Member: - S. Wainwright

Officers: - S.E.A Sternberg (Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer), A. Turner (Deputy Monitoring Officer), and K. Rodda (Democratic Services Officer).

666. APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted from Councillors M. G. Crane and A. M. Syrett.

667. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

668. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

669. MINUTES –10TH OCTOBER 2012

Moved by Councillor M. Dooley, seconded by Councillor H. J. Gilmour
RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting held on 10th October 2012 be accepted as a correct record.

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670. RECOMMENDED ITEM FROM EXECUTIVE, 22ND OCTOBER 2012 – MINUTE NO. 539 – COMMUNITY RIGHT TO CHALLENGE

The Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer presented the recommended item and explained to the meeting about the provisions contained within the Localism Act, known as the Community Right to Challenge, and how this would enable relevant bodies to submit an expression of interest for the running of Council Services.

The meeting was requested to approve that delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer as detailed in the Executive report, following consultation with the Leader.

Moved by Councillor H. J. Gilmour, seconded by Councillor M. Dooley
RECOMMENDED that the Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority to vary the timescales, as detailed in the report, following consultation with the Leader.

(Monitoring Officer/Constitution)

671. COMPLAINTS OF BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT – 2012

The Monitoring Officer informed the meeting that twelve complaints had been received. The Deputy Monitoring Officer advised the meeting that the majority of the complaints were from a certain individual, and how it would be necessary to look at ways of resolving these complaints. This would be brought back to a future meeting.

The report was noted.

672. UPDATE ON DISTRICT AND PARISH COUNCILLORS REGISTRATION OF DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS

The report provided details on the number of Parish/Town Councils Register of Interests forms that had been completed and the Deputy Monitoring Officer informed the meeting that the Clerks to the Parish Councils would be chasing up any outstanding forms.

The report was noted.

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673. FLOW CHART FOR DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

The flow chart for Disclosure of Interests was on the agenda as a guide for Members and an example of an Interest was given by the Deputy Monitoring Officer.

After a short discussion, it was suggested that a copy of the flow chart be sent out to all Members.

The flow chart was noted.

674. NALC GUIDANCE ON PARISH COUNCILS AND THE SETTING OF THE PRECEPT AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The Monitoring Officer presented the information from NALC on Members' conduct and the registration and disclosure of their interest to the meeting for Members' information.

The report was noted.

675. COUNSELS OPINION SOUGHT BY HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL RELATING TO DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST

The Monitoring Officer presented the report for Members' information and informed them of a potential gap in legislation.

The Deputy Monitoring Officer also informed the meeting that details of the Register of Interests were now on the website, including that of spouses although the Localism Act did not make it absolutely clear in what format, this should be published.

The report was noted.

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676. CONSTITUTION WORKING PARTY UPDATE

The Monitoring Officer informed the meeting that the Working Party had met; Part 4.1 – Council Procedural Rules had been discussed and the proposed changes would be presented to Cabinet and Senior Management Team before taking back to Standards and Council for approval.

The Working Group would be looking at Part 2 – The Articles next.

The update was noted.

The meeting concluded at 1424 hours.

The Chair wished everyone well for Christmas and the New Year.