

From: ian.kirk629
Sent: 29 May 2022 21:53
To: Jim Fieldsend <Jim.Fieldsend@bolsover.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Complaint MC13/2020

Warning External

Evening Jim

I have refreshed my knowledge of the complaint and read Kevin's report which you attached.

There is nothing new which leads me to revise my assessment that there had been a breach or to change my view on the suggested resolution.

I agree with your suggestion that Parish Councillor Beckett should be allowed further time to make the apology. It might be prudent to advise her of a deadline to do so.

If she declines to make the apology or fails to engage further with the process then it is my view that you as Monitoring Officer will need to decide whether it is appropriate to proceed to a full Standards Committee Hearing.

Regards

Ian Kirk

Independent Person for Standards

----- Original Message -----

From: "Jim Fieldsend" <Jim.Fieldsend@bolsover.gov.uk>

To: "Ian Kirk"

Sent: Thursday, 26 May, 2022 At 09:38

Subject: RE: Complaint MC13/2020

Hi Ian,

Thank you for letting me know. I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Jim Fieldsend

Assistant Director & Monitoring Officer

Bolsover District Council

The Arc, High Street, Clowne, Derbyshire S43 4JY

01246 242472

Mobile: 07966312930

From: Ian Kirk

Sent: 25 May 2022 17:01

To: Jim Fieldsend <Jim.Fieldsend@bolsover.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Complaint MC13/2020

Warning External

Hi Jim

I'm currently away.

I'll make sure I respond to your email over the forthcoming weekend.

Ian

Sent from my iPhone

On 18 May 2022, at 12:58, Jim Fieldsend <Jim.Fieldsend@bolsover.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi Ian,

You will recall replying to Kevin just over a year ago on a complaint that a Tibshelf Parish councillor, Alison Beckett, had misled the Council. You agreed with Kevin that there had been a breach and following your response Kevin wrote to the councillor stating :

“it is our view that this breach of the Code of Conduct can be addressed without further investigation if, at the next available Parish Council meeting, you would be prepared to make on the record:

- a retraction of all dishonest statements; and
- an apology to:
 - Mrs Zoe Andrews for attributing untrue statements to her; and
 - Other members of the Parish Council for misleading them”

Councillor Beckett refused to apologise as requested in Kevin’s letter and therefore a formal investigation ensued. Kevin undertook an investigation and completed it following leaving Bolsover District Council. I have attached the completed investigation report. You will note that he is still of the view that there has been a breach.

My view is that despite the previous refusal to apologise, I would like to give her a further opportunity to do so. If she fails to do this I will have no option but to arrange a Standards Committee Hearing.

I would appreciate your view on whether you agree (1) that there has been a breach of the code and (2) with my proposal to seek an apology.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Jim Fieldsend

Assistant Director & Monitoring Officer

Bolsover District Council

The Arc, High Street, Clowne, Derbyshire S43 4JY

01246 242472

Mobile: 07966312930

From: ian.kirk629

Sent: 17 May 2021 10:58

To: Kevin Shillitto <Kevin.Shillitto@bolsover.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: [OFFICIAL (SENSITIVE)] Complaint MC13/2020

Warning External

Kevin

I have read all the details you forwarded to me, including the Tibshelf Parish Council Code of Conduct.

As you say, it is one of the Nolan principles which has been breached.

I agree with your findings and the suggested resolution.

I should say that I know one of the members of the Parish Council through an old relationship with the councillor's sister. However, this councillor is not one of those who have made complaints and so I do not feel that my impartiality is compromised.

Regards

Ian Kirk

----- Original Message -----

From: "Kevin Shillitto" <Kevin.Shillitto@bolsover.gov.uk>

To: "'ian.kirk629'"

Sent: Friday, 14 May, 2021 At 14:01

Subject: [OFFICIAL (SENSITIVE)] Complaint MC13/2020

Dear Ian

I trust that you are well.

Attached are details of an outstanding complaint from late last year. For a number of reasons there have been delays, requiring that I gave Cllr Beckett, the subject of the complaint, an additional period to provide information for us to consider. She has failed to do so.

Accordingly I have drafted the attached response. As always I would be grateful for your consideration and comments.

Due to the delays I need to get an outcome notified to the parties quickly. I would therefore be extremely grateful if you could consider this as soon as possible.

Kind regards

Kevin Shillitto

Solicitor & Deputy Monitoring Officer

Bolsover & NE Derbyshire District Councils

The Arc, High Street, Clowne, Chesterfield S43 4JY

Tel: 01246 242507

Mob: 07527 473769

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