

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THURSDAY, 11TH MAY, 2017

PRESENT:-

Independent Members: Susan Toland (Chair), Deborah Russell and Dr Cyril Davies

Parish Representatives:

Bath and North East Somerset Councillors: Sally Davis, Sarah Bevan and Brian Simmons

Officers: Maria Lucas (Head of Legal and Democratic Services) and Enfys Hughes

Observer:

34 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

35 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer read out the emergency evacuation procedure.

36 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTION

Apologies were received from Parish Representatives – Tony Crouch and Veronica Packham and BANES Councillors – Geoff Ward and Nigel Roberts.

Dr Axel Palmer had written to the Chair informing her of his resignation as a Parish Councillor. Therefore he could no longer be a Parish Representative on Standards Committee. The Committee wished to note their thanks for his time and effort spent on this Committee.

37 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

38 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

There was none.

39 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS (COMPLAINTS MUST GO THROUGH THE STANDARDS COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE)

There were none.

40 ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED AND ADDED MEMBERS RELATING TO THE GENERAL BUSINESS OF THE COMMITTEE

There were none.

41 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 30TH MARCH 2017

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 30th March 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chair(person).

42 ANNUAL REPORT 2016 - 2017

The Monitoring Officer presented this report and updated the figures in the tables in section 6. The updated figures would be circulated to members and included in the final version.

It was also noted that an older version of the workplan was included in the report which did not reflect the future dates of meetings as there had been some changes. The current version of the workplan would be included with the report.

RESOLVED

- 1) to note the Annual Report 2016-2017 including the amendments; and
- 2) to grant delegated authority to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in consultation with the Chair of the Standards Committee to finalise the report, including the addition of a Chair's Foreword and taking into account any comments received pursuant to recommendation 1 in the report, prior to its submission to the Council meeting.

43 REPORT ON THE ASSESSMENT OF COMPLAINTS

The Monitoring Officer presented this report and informed the Committee that one complaint had been received after the report.

RESOLVED that the report on the assessment of complaints be noted.

44 WORKPLAN FOR THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that the Workplan be noted.

45 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The Monitoring Officer presented the report and explained the issue, that a member with a discloseable pecuniary interest would have the same rights as a member of the public and could address the committee at the start of the meeting.

All members of Standards Committee agreed to this amendment.

RESOLVED that the Member Planning Code of Conduct should be amended to allow councillors with disclosable pecuniary interests to have the same right to speak as members of the public.

The meeting ended at 6.40 pm

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services