

## **BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET**

### **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

#### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THURSDAY, 19TH JULY, 2018**

##### **PRESENT:-**

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

**Parish Representatives:** Tony Crouch and Veronica Packham

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

**Officers:** Maria Lucas (Monitoring Officer); Jo Morrison (Democratic Services Manager)

**Independent Person:** Tony Drew

#### **1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed Parish Councillor David Elliott to the meeting.

#### **2 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

The Chair invited the Clerk to announce the emergency evacuation procedure.

#### **3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTION**

No apologies had been submitted.

#### **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **5 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

There were no items of urgent business.

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

There were no items from the public.

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

There were no items from Councillors.

#### **8 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 8TH MARCH 2018**

The minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## **9 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

The Committee **RESOLVED** that having been satisfied that the public interest would be better served by not disclosing relevant information, in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business and the reporting of the meeting be prevented under Section 100A(5A) because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended.

## **10 LOCAL HEARING ON INVESTIGATION INTO COMPLAINT 1.18A AND B HINTON BLEWETT PARISH COUNCIL**

Following careful consideration of all the facts in the Investigating Officer's report, and the representations from parties made at the meeting, the Committee

**RESOLVED** as set out below.

They concluded that Parish Councillor Elliott did have a personal interest, in view of the nature of the application, which was not disclosed. His failure to declare this interest did constitute a breach of the Code of Conduct. They made the following recommendations;

1. That Parish Councillor Elliott apologise for his breach of the Code to the next full meeting of the Parish Council;
2. That the Parish Council as a whole are strongly recommended to undertake training on the Code of Conduct, especially on disclosures of interest, by the end of 2018; and
3. That the Parish Council review its Standing Orders and Code of Conduct to ensure they are clear and consistent.

The Committee suggested that the Parish Council approach ALCA for help with the training.

The meeting ended at 7.10 pm

Chair(person) .....

Date Confirmed and Signed .....

**Prepared by Democratic Services**