

**MINUTES OF THE STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 5TH JUNE 2013**

3.00 PM – 3.34 PM

Responsible Officer: Shelley Davies
e-mail: shelley.davies@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 252719

Present:

Mr M Bennett, Mr V Hunt and Mr K Turley.

Officers Present:

Graham White (Solicitor) and Shelley Davies (Committee Officer)

1.0 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

1.1 RESOLVED:

That Mr M Bennett be appointed Chairman of the Standards Sub-Committee for the duration of the meeting.

2.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 None received.

3.0 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

3.1 Members of the Committee were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

4.0 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

4.1 RESOLVED:

That in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 and paragraph 10.4(1) of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules, the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following agenda item

5.0 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT

- 5.1 Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Monitoring Officer (Agenda Item 5) in relation to an allegation that two Shropshire Councillors had failed to comply with the Code of Conduct of Shropshire Council and that a Parish Councillor had failed to comply with the code of conduct of the Parish Council.
- 5.2 The Solicitor presented the report to the Sub-Committee providing information in relation to the complaint and outlined the options available to the Sub-Committee.
- 5.3 The Sub Committee Members had regard to the representations made by the one of the Shropshire Councillors and the Parish Councillor in response to the allegation and did not consider that any evidence had been provided to suggest that the Councillors had failed to comply with the Code of Conduct of Shropshire Council.

5.4 RESOLVED:

The Standards Sub-Committee did not consider that it would be in the public interest to carry out any further investigation of the matter as it would be unlikely to conclude that there had been a failure to comply with the code of conduct in respect of the allegation.

REASONS:

The Sub Committee considered that there was insufficient evidence to suggest that any investigation might conclude that there had been a failure to comply with the code of conduct.

6.0 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT

- 6.1 Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Monitoring Officer (Agenda Item 6) in relation to an allegation that a Shropshire Councillor had failed to comply with the Code of Conduct of Shropshire Council.
- 6.2 The Solicitor presented the report to the Sub-Committee providing information in relation to the complaint and outlined the options available to the Sub-Committee. It was noted that the complaint related to the previous code of conduct where a Councillor had failed to declare a personal and prejudicial interest. The Solicitor added that the complainant had only recently discovered the information when he was preparing for a planning appeal.
- 6.3 The Sub Committee Members had regard to the representations made by the Councillor in response to the allegation and did not consider that the Councillor had a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to the matter.

6.4 RESOLVED:

The Standards Sub-Committee did not consider that it would be in the public interest to carry out any further investigation of the matter as it

would be unlikely to conclude that there had been a failure to comply with the code of conduct in respect of the allegation.

REASONS:

The Sub Committee considered that the Councillor had not had a Personal and Prejudicial interest in the matter and therefore considered that there was insufficient evidence to suggest any investigation might conclude that there had been a failure to comply with the code of conduct

7.0 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT

7.1 Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Monitoring Officer (Agenda Item 7) in relation to an allegation that a Shropshire Councillor had failed to comply with the Code of Conduct of Shropshire Council.

7.2 The Solicitor presented the report to the Sub-Committee providing information in relation to the complaint and outlined the options available to the Sub-Committee.

7.3 The Sub Committee Members had regard to the representations made by the Councillor in response to the allegation and did not consider that any evidence had been provided to suggest that the Councillor had failed to comply with the Code of Conduct of Shropshire Council.

7.4 RESOLVED:

The Standards Sub-Committee did not consider that it would be in the public interest to carry out any further investigation of the matter as it would be unlikely to conclude that there had been a failure to comply with the code of conduct in respect of the allegation.

REASONS:

The Sub Committee considered that there was insufficient evidence to suggest that any investigation might conclude that there had been a failure to comply with the code of conduct.

Signed (Chairman)

Date:.....