

Standards Committee

Tuesday 9 December
2008
7.00 pm

Council Chamber
Town Hall
Redditch

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

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a
difference*

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Access to Information - Your Rights

The Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 widened the rights of press and public to attend Local Authority meetings and to see certain documents. Recently the Freedom of Information Act 2000, has further broadened these rights, and limited exemptions under the 1985 Act.

Your main rights are set out below:-

- Automatic right to attend all Council and Committee meetings unless the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- Automatic right to inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
- Automatic right to inspect minutes of the Council and its Committees (or summaries of business undertaken in private) for up to six years following a meeting.
- Access, upon request, to the background papers on which reports are based for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting.
- Access to a public register stating the names and addresses and electoral areas of all Councillors with details of the membership of all Committees etc.
- A reasonable number of copies of agenda and reports relating to items to be considered in public must be made available to the public attending meetings of the Council and its Committees etc.
- Access to a list specifying those powers which the Council has delegated to its Officers indicating also the titles of the Officers concerned.
- Access to a summary of the rights of the public to attend meetings of the Council and its Committees etc. and to inspect and copy documents.
- In addition, the public now has a right to be present when the Council determines “Key Decisions” unless the business would disclose confidential or “exempt” information.
- Unless otherwise stated, all items of business before the Executive Committee are Key Decisions.
- (Copies of Agenda Lists are published in advance of the meetings on the Council’s Website:
www.redditchbc.gov.uk

If you have any queries on this Agenda or any of the decisions taken or wish to exercise any of the above rights of access to information, please contact

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آپ انگریزی میں مدد چاہتے ہیں— نسلیاتی رسائی [Ethnic Access] سے رابطہ کریں ٹیلیفون: 01905 25121

ইংরেজি ভাষার বিষয়ে সাহায্য চান – এথনিক অ্যাকসেস [Ethnic Access] এর সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করুন,
টেলিফোন: 01905 25121

‘Potrzebujesz pomocy z Angielskim – skontaktuj się z Ethnic Access Tel: 01905 25121’



Standards

Tuesday, 9th December, 2008

7.00 pm

Committee

Committee Room 2 Town Hall

Agenda

Membership:

Independent Members

D Andrews (Chair)
M Collins
B Warwick

Borough Council Members

A Clayton
A Fry
M Hall
W Hartnett
W Norton
J Pearce
B Quinney

Feckenham Parish Council Members

J James
J Matthews

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| 1. Apologies | To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend this meeting. |
| 2. Declarations of Interest | To invite Councillors to declare any interests they may have in items on the agenda. |
| 3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 4) Chief Executive | To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 10 July 2008. (Minutes attached) |
| 4. Matters arising | To consider any exceptional updates on matters raised at the previous meeting and not separately listed on the agenda. |

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Committee

Tuesday, 9th December, 2008

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| <p>5. Consultation on Codes of Conduct for Local Authority Members and Employees</p> <p>(Pages 5 - 30)</p> <p>Head of Legal, Democratic and Property Services</p> | <p>To seek the Standards Committee's views on proposed changes to the Members' Code of Conduct and comments on the proposed Employee Code of Conduct.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p>(No Specific Ward Relevance)</p> |
| <p>6. Chair's / Members' Reports</p> <p>Borough Director</p> | <p>To consider any Chair / Member updates not separately covered on the agenda list, including brief feedback from any Seminars or Conferences.</p> <p>(Oral report)</p> |
| <p>7. Parish Council Report (if any)</p> | <p>To consider any report in relation to Feckenham Parish Council.</p> <p>(Oral report)</p> |