



Standards Committee

9 December 2008

Minutes

Present:

Independent Members:

Mrs Deborah Andrews (Chair), Mr M Collins and Mr B Warwick

Borough Council Members:

Councillors W Hartnett, W Norton, J Pearce and B Quinney

Parish Council Members:

Parish Councillor J James

Officers:

S Mullins, S Skinner and A Teepe

Committee Officers:

D Sunman

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Fry and Parish Councillor Matthews.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10 July 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

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Chair

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5. CONSULTATION ON CODES OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

The Head of Legal, Democratic & Property in her role as Monitoring Officer informed Members that the Department for Communities and Local Government was seeking comments on the proposed changes to the Members' Code of Conduct and also comments on the proposed Employee Code of Conduct.

Members discussed each question in Appendix 1 individually and were in agreement with all comments except for those outlined below.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) the responses to specific questions at Appendix 1 be endorsed with the following suggested amendments:
 - 1.2 that paragraph 2 be amended to include Police Cautions;
 - 1.3 that 'deliberately' should be added to the quote in paragraph 1;
 - 1.6 that members felt it was not appropriate for them to make any comment on the Employee Code of Conduct.

6. CHAIR'S / MEMBERS' REPORTS

The Chair and members of the Committee reported on a training session on Members' Code of Conduct they had attended at Bromsgrove that had proved useful.

7. PARISH COUNCIL REPORT (IF ANY)

The Parish Council representative informed members that, as this was her first meeting, she had no further report to make.

The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 8.40 pm

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Chair