

Local Standards Hearing Panel Minutes

Date: Monday, 20th June, 2011

Time: 4.30 - 4.40 pm

PRESENT:

Parish Councillor D Banfield, Revd G Hargrove and District Councillor Ms J D Wassell

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Revd G Hargrove be appointed Chairman of the meeting.

Revd Hargrove in the Chair

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4 QUORUM

The Chairman confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

5 RESOLUTION RE ITEM 6 EXPECTED TO BE TAKEN IN EXEMPT SESSION

RESOLVED: That pursuant to Section 100B(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of minute 6 because of its reference to matters which contain exempt information as defined as follows:

Minute No 6 – Consideration of Investigating Officer’s Report into Standards Complaint

Information presented to a Sub-Committee of a Standards Committee set up to consider any matter under Regulations 16 to 30 of the Standards Committee (England) Regulations

2008. (Paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972).

Information in any of the categories within Schedule 12A which is not prevented from being exempt by virtue of paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Schedule is exempt information if and so long as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. It was not considered in the present circumstances that the public interest in disclosure outweighed the authority's need to withhold the information because the distress caused to the individual concerned would outweigh the public interest in disclosure.

6 CONSIDERATION OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S REPORT RE STANDARDS COMPLAINT IA34

The Members of the Panel confirmed that they had read in detail the report of the Investigating Officer as appended, and considered the summary of findings contained therein.

The Panel felt that a Local Hearing into the allegations should be scheduled, referral of the matter to the Adjudication Panel for determination was not appropriate.

RESOLVED: That the matter should be considered at a hearing of the Local Standards Panel conducted under Regulation 18 of the Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008.

The following officers were in attendance at the meeting:

David Dongray - District Solicitor / Monitoring Officer
Peter Druce - Democratic Services