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Minutes

of the Meeting of the

Standards Sub-Committee Tuesday, 5th February 2019

held at the Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare.

Meeting Commenced: 10.00 Meeting Concluded: 11.30

Councillors:

P Jill lles

P Ruth Jacobs

P John Ley-Morgan

P: Present

A: Apologies for absence submitted

Also present (co-opted, non-voting): Nick Carter-Brown (Independent Lay Person), Fred Malton (Independent Parish Councillor) – for Agenda Item 5

Officers in attendance: Julia Parkes (Corporate Services), Sara Saunders; Solicitor (Corporate Services)

SSC Election of Chairman for the Meeting (Agenda Item1)

Resolved: that Councillor Jill Iles be elected Chairman for the meeting

(Councillor lles in the Chair)

SSC Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (Standing Order 37) 15 (Agenda Item 3)

None

SSC Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 November 2018 (Agenda Item 4)

16

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record.

SSC Exclusion of Press and Public

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Resolved: that the press, public and officers not required to remain during the exempt session by the members or officers advising, be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that its consideration will involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Reason for Exemption

Minute no. SSC18 and SSC19 Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 18

SSC Complaint against a Parish Councillor (9/2018) (Agenda Item 5)

The Sub-Committee considered a complaint received from a member of the public regarding a Parish Councillor, stating that he had breached the Bleadon Council Code of Conduct applicable to Parish Councillors.

The Deputy Monitoring Officer outlined the complaint.

The Sub-Committee considered the complaint, together with the response from the Councillor concerned and received the views of the Independent Lay Person and Independent Parish Councillor.

In considering the key issues, the Sub-Committee concluded that the Councillor's actions had breached Bleadon Parish Council's Code of Conduct, in particular; Openness and Leadership.

Resolved:

(1) that a copy of the decision letter will be sent to the Clerk of Bleadon Parish Council in order for her to make a recommendation to the Parish Council that is put on the Agenda for the complaint to be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting;

(2) that the Councillor will be invited to the next training session on Standards and Councillor Conduct; and

(3) that the Deputy Monitoring Officer write to the Councillor and the complainant advising of the decision.

Fred Malton (Independent Parish Councillor) left the meeting.

SSC Complaint against a North Somerset Councillor (11/2018) (Agenda 19 Item 6)

The Sub-Committee considered a complaint received from a member of the public regarding a North Somerset Councillor stating that he had breached the North Somerset Council Code of Conduct applicable to councillors.

The Deputy Monitoring Officer outlined the complaint.

The Sub-Committee considered the complaint, together with the response from the Councillor concerned and received the views of the Independent Lay Person.

In considering the key issues, the Sub-Committee considered that the Councillor's actions had not breached the Code of Conduct as due process had been followed and all opinions had been considered by all parties.

Resolved:

(1) that as the Councillor's conduct did not, in the view of the Sub-Committee, breach the Code of Conduct, no further action be taken; and

(2) that the Deputy Monitoring Officer write to the Councillor and the complainant advising of the decision.

Chairman