

# EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Standards Committee held in the Coltman VC Room at the Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

## **Present:**

Councillors M J Bowering (Chairman), R J Clarke, M T Fitzpatrick, Mrs J Jones and Mrs J Killoran.

## **Parish Council Member:**

Councillors P Cooper and C Keen.

## **Officers Present:**

Mrs Angela Wakefield (Solicitor and Monitoring Officer) and the Senior Democratic Services Officer.

## **Also Present:**

Mr G Goodall (Independent Person).

Apologies for absence were received from C Burden and Mrs A Johnson (Independent Members).

The Chairman informed the Committee that Mrs Ros Melbourne (Deputy Independent Person) had passed away. He requested that it be placed on record a vote of thanks for all her support and hard work on the Committee.

### 65/18 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

### 66/18 **MINUTES**

#### **Resolved:**

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

### 67/18 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business pursuant to Rule 12.

### 68/18 **HEARING OF COMPLAINT REGARDING A MEMBER'S CONDUCT**

(MO) Members considered the report of the Monitoring Officer on the hearing of complaint regarding Member conduct. The following appendix had been circulated with the report:

- Appendix 05a Investigators Report

The Chairman introduced the Members of the Committee and explained the purpose of the meeting. The Solicitor outlined the procedure to be adopted.

Councillor G Allen attended the meeting.

The Solicitor advised that there were no preliminary issues to be dealt with.

The Investigating Officer described the complaint.

The Committee asked questions of the Investigation Officer.

The Independent Person asked questions of the Investigating Officer.

Councillor Allen stated his case.

The Committee asked questions of Councillor Allen.

The Independent Person expressed his views.

The Investigating Officer summed up the case and Councillor Allen summed up his case.

The Independent Person expressed his views.

**Resolved:**

- (1) That Councillor G Allen had breached the Councillor's Code of Conduct and the Council's Planning Code of Conduct;
- (2) That the Committee's findings in respect of Councillor G Allen be published on the Council's website;
- (3) That the Committee report its findings to Council in respect of Councillor G Allen to Council for information;
- (4) That Councillor G Allen would be required to receive training by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 on the subject of Members Conduct and the Council's Planning Code of Conduct.
- (5) That Councillor G Allen should not be allowed to sit and Planning Committee until the training referred to at 4 above had been completed.

69/18 **HEARING OF COMPLAINT REGARDING A MEMBER'S CONDUCT**

(MO) Members considered the report of the Monitoring Officer on the hearing of complaint regarding Member conduct. The following appendix had been circulated with the report:

- Appendix 06a Investigators Report

The Chairman introduced the Members of the Committee and explained the purpose of the meeting. The Solicitor outlined the procedure to be adopted.

Councillor S McGarry attended the meeting.

The Solicitor advised that there were no preliminary issues to be dealt with.

The Investigating Officer described the complaint.

Councillor S McGarry stated her case.

The Committee asked questions of Councillor S McGarry.

The Independent Person expressed his views.

The Investigating Officer summed up the case and Councillor S McGarry summed up her case.

The Independent Person expressed his views.

**Resolved:**

- (1) That Councillor S McGarry had breached the Councillor's Code of Conduct and the Council's Planning Code of Conduct;
- (2) That the Committee's findings in respect of Councillor S McGarry be published on the Council's website;
- (3) That the Committee report its findings to Council in respect of Councillor S McGarry to Council for information;
- (4) That Councillor S McGarry would be required to receive training by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 on the subject of Members Conduct and the Council's Planning Code of Conduct.
- (5) That Councillor S McGarry should not be allowed to sit and Planning Committee until the training referred to at 4 above had been completed.

**Chairman**