

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
ETHICAL GOVERNANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

30 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 10.30 AM

PRESENT:

Mr SL Rooney (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Mrs MA Cook, Mrs MJ Surtees, Mr P Wallace, Ms BM Witherford, Mr E Hollick (for Mr MB Cartwright), Mr C Ladkin (for Mrs R Camamile) and Mrs J Richards (for Mr LJP O'Shea)

Also in attendance: Gordon Grimes (Independent Person)

Officers in attendance: Julie Kenny, Joseph Matharu and Rebecca Owen

193 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Camamile, Cartwright and O'Shea, with the following substitutions authorised in accordance with Council Procedure Rules 4.2 and 4.3:

Councillor Ladkin for Councillor Camamile
Councillor Hollick for Councillor Cartwright
Councillor Richards for Councillor O'Shea.

194 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Wallace, seconded by Councillor Cook and

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2015 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

195 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

196 MATTERS FROM WHICH THE PUBLIC MAY BE EXCLUDED

On the motion of Councillor Wallace seconded by Councillor Cook, it was

RESOLVED – in accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 10 of Part I of Schedule 12A of that Act.

197 COMPLAINT 2015/11-14

Members received a report summarising a complaint made against a councillor. Whilst members appreciated the comment made was not helpful, there was a general consensus that the subject member did not breach the code of conduct. It was moved by Councillor Witherford, seconded by Councillor Cook and

RESOLVED – the officer's recommendation be supported and no further action be taken.

Councillor Richards wished it to be recorded that she abstained from voting.

198 COMPLAINTS 2015/16-19 AND 22-25

Members were presented with an investigative report surrounding a complaint and counter-complaint involving members of Ratby Parish Council.

The Monitoring Officer reported that Councillor K Hunnybun's behaviour breached the Parish Council's Code of Conduct; however as Councillor K Hunnybun is keen to apologise, she was of the view that appropriate steps had been taken to remedy the situation. It was also heard that there was nothing to substantiate the counter-claims made by Cllrs Hunnybun that Councillors Tasker, Joyce and O'Shea (Mrs) had breached the Code of Conduct and therefore no further action was required for either matter.

There was widespread acceptance amongst members that Councillor K Hunnybun had breached the Code of Conduct but concern was expressed as to what more the subject Councillor could do to remedy the situation.

Concern was also heard on whether preventative measures were in place to prevent such incidents from occurring and that Councillor K Hunnybun needed warning of his future conduct.

Notwithstanding the officer's first recommendation, it was moved by Councillor Richards, seconded by Councillor Wallace and

RESOLVED – the matter be referred to the Monitoring Officer for other action, which may include mediation or other dispute resolution techniques.

Regarding the second recommendation in relation to the counter-complaint, it was moved by Councillor Wallace, seconded by Councillor Witherford and

RESOLVED – the officer's recommendation be supported and no further action need be taken.

(The Meeting closed at 11.02 am)

CHAIRMAN