

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
ETHICAL GOVERNANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

28 OCTOBER 2016 AT 10.00 AM

PRESENT: Mr LJP O'Shea - Chairman

Mr MB Cartwright, Mr WJ Crooks and Ms BM Witherford

Also in attendance: Mr G Grimes, Independent Person

Officers in attendance: Julie Kenny and Rebecca Owen

220 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Boothby, Lay, Morrell and Wright.

221 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Cartwright, seconded by Councillor Witherford and

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

A member requested that an update on the progress of code of conduct complaints be included on each agenda. The Monitoring Officer agreed to provide this.

222 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

223 CORPORATE COMPLAINTS 2015-16

The Committee received the annual update on corporate complaints received for 2015/16. The increase in the number of complaints year on year, in line with the national trend, was acknowledged.

A member expressed concern about the number of complaints receiving a response outside of the ten-day deadline and, whilst it was noted that this was a relatively small number, members were informed that the Corporate Operations Board was monitoring this.

Further concern was expressed about the increase in complaints about the housing repairs service and in response it was acknowledged that there had been an increase due to issues with a particular contractor, but that these had been addressed and performance had improved greatly since.

It was moved by Councillor Crooks, seconded by Councillor Witherford and

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

224 STATUTORY SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Members were reminded that, following the discontinuation of Local Joint and Safety Panel, it had been agreed that minutes of the Statutory Safety Committee would be brought to the Ethical Governance & Personnel Committee for information.

A member expressed concern in relation to minute 4E of the meeting on 11 August and asked whether those who repeatedly required replacement PPE were being addressed. It was agreed that the Health and Safety Officer would be asked for an update which would be provided to the next meeting.

225 MATTERS FROM WHICH THE PUBLIC MAY BE EXCLUDED

On the motion of Councillor Cartwright seconded by Councillor Crooks, 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.

226 COMPLAINTS 2016/04, 05 & 06

Consideration was given to complaints about three parish councillors which were considered together due to the circumstances surrounding the complaint being the same. After hearing the background to the complaint and the outcome of conversations with the complainant and subject members, members of the committee felt that there had been a breakdown of relationships within the parish council over the matter and that any investigation would be based on one person's word against another, which would not lead to an outcome for either party.

It was moved by Councillor Cartwright and seconded by Councillor O'Shea that no further action be taken, but that the Parish Council members be reminded of the Nolan Principles and the Code of Conduct and their obligations to comply with these. Upon being put to the vote, the motion was unanimously CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED – no further action be taken, but members of the parish council be reminded of their obligations to comply with the Nolan Principles and the Code of Conduct.

(The Meeting closed at 10.30 am)

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CHAIRMAN