

Committee: Standards Committee
Date: Wednesday 10 October 2012
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA

Membership

Councillor Andrew Beere	Councillor Fred Blackwell
Councillor Timothy Hallchurch MBE	Councillor Chris Heath
Councillor Russell Hurle	Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes
Councillor James Macnamara	Councillor Rose Stratford

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitute Members**
- 2. Appointment of Chairman for the Municipal Year 2012-2013**
- 3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman for the Municipal Year 2012-2013**

4. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

5. Requests to Address the Meeting

The Chairman to report on any requests to address the meeting.

6. Urgent Business

The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.

7. Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the former Standards Committee held on 10 May 2012

8. Co-option of Town/Parish Council Members (Pages 5 - 8)

Report of Head of Law and Governance / Monitoring Officer

Summary

To enable the Committee to consider whether it wishes to go through a process of co-opting Town/Parish Council members to the Committee.

Recommendations

The Standards Committee is recommended to:

- (1) Consider whether it wishes to co-opt Town/Parish Council members to the Committee and, if so, how many.
- (2) If Town/Parish Council members are to be co-opted, determine a process for the receipt and consideration of applications.

9. Appointment of Independent Persons - Update (Pages 9 - 12)

Report of Head of Law and Governance / Monitoring Officer

Summary

To enable the Committee to receive a verbal update on the latest position with regard to the appointment of Statutory Independent Persons so that recommendations can be made to the full Council meeting on 15 October 2012.

Recommendations

The Standards Committee is recommended to:

- (1) Receive a verbal update from the Head of Law and Governance/Monitoring Officer on the latest position with reference to the appointment of Independent Persons and agree recommended appointments to full Council.

10. Arrangements for Dealing with Complaints of Councillor Misconduct (Pages 13 - 32)

Report of Head of Law and Governance / Monitoring Officer

Summary

To enable the Committee to endorse, or amend as it sees fit, the arrangements for dealing with complaints of Councillor misconduct introduced with effect from 1 July

2012 by the Head of Law and Governance/Monitoring Officer under the delegated authority given by full Council in May 2012.

Recommendations

The Standards Committee is recommended to:

- (1) Endorse the arrangements for complaints of Councillor misconduct at Appendix 1, or to amend them as it sees fit.

11. Determination of Dispensation Requests (Pages 33 - 36)

Report of Head of Law and Governance / Monitoring Officer

Summary

To enable the Committee to agree a method for dealing with applications for dispensation which are received from members of Cherwell District Council.

Recommendations

The Standards Committee is recommended to:

- (1) Delegate authority to the Head of Law and Governance/Monitoring Officer in consultation with an Independent Person to determine requests for dispensation that are received from members of Cherwell District Council.

12. Exclusion of the Public and Press

The following reports contain exempt information as defined in the following paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of Local Government Act 1972.

1 – Information relating to any individual

3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Members are reminded that whilst the following item has been marked as exempt, it is for the meeting to decide whether or not to consider each of them in private or in public. In making the decision, members should balance the interests of individuals or the Council itself in having access to the information. In considering their discretion members should also be mindful of the advice of Council Officers.

Should Members decide not to make a decision in public, they are recommended to pass the following recommendation:

“That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they could involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.”

13. **Application for Dispensation** (Pages 37 - 42)

Exempt Report of Head of Law and Governance / Monitoring Officer

Councillors are requested to collect any post from their pigeon hole in the Members Room at the end of the meeting.

Information about this Meeting

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or 01295 221589 prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item. The definition of personal and prejudicial interests is set out in the constitution.

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare the fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

Evacuation Procedure

When the continuous alarm sounds you must evacuate the building by the nearest available fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the car park as directed by Democratic Services staff and await further instructions.

Access to Meetings

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named below, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Mobile Phones

Please ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off.

Queries Regarding this Agenda

Please contact Natasha Clark, Democratic and Elections
natasha.clark@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk, 01295 221589

Sue Smith
Chief Executive

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