

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Friday, 8th June, 2007

Councillor Mr J.R. Baggaley (Chairman)

Councillors: P.G. Barnes F.J.D. Boot
C.N.F.W. Pratt
Mr. G.R.K Martin
Mr G.D Proctor Mr G Wallis

1 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 FEBRUARY 2007

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to an amendment to minute no. 10 to show that Councillor Boot was elected Chairman for the meeting and Mr. J.R. Baggaley was elected Chairman of the Committee.

2 CODE OF CONDUCT

The Head of Democratic and Community Services reported that the new Code of Conduct had come into force on 3 May 2007.

The Council had adopted the Code at the Annual meeting on 16 May 2007.

All Parish Councils within the Borough would also be required to adopt the new Code of Conduct and The Officer would be contacting them to confirm what actions they intend to take.

RESOLVED:

i. To note the report and that further training be carried out in September 2007 for Borough Council Members on the Code of Conduct and that Parish Council Clerks and Chairmen or their nominated representatives be invited to the Training.

ii. That training for Members of the Standards Committee in case of tribunal hearings be investigated.

3 OMBUDSMAN REPORT

The Head of Democratic and Community Services reported that the Local Government Ombudsman had issued a report on the incidence of

maladministration claims against the Council. The report was submitted at Appendix 2.

There had been a significant increase in the number of complaints made to the Ombudsman although there were no findings of maladministration against the Council.

RESOLVED:

To note the report

4 STANDARDS BOARD CONFERENCE

The Head of Democratic and Community Services reported that the Standards Board Sixth Annual Assembly of Standards Committees would be held in Birmingham on 15 and 16 October 2007.

The conference would look at the new Code of Conduct and how the local filter process would work when the legislation came into force in 2008.

Members were requested to consider whether a member of the Standards Committee would attend the conference.

RESOLVED:

To authorise the attendance of the Chairman to attend the Annual Conference

The meeting closed at 5.45 pm