

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Thursday, 11th September, 2008

Mr J.R.Baggaley (Chairman)

Councillors:	P.G. Barnes	F.J.D. Boot
	C.N.F.W. Pratt	
	Mr G.D Proctor	Mr G Wallis
	Mr G. T. Parkinson (a)	

6 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 MAY 2008.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

7 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The Monitoring Officer reported that the Standards Board has issued guidance on the way that Assessment Sub-Committees deal with the initial assessment of complaints.

It was suggested that the Standards Committee should develop criteria against which it would assess new complaints and decide what action to take.

The criteria were intended to ensure fairness for the complainant and the member complained about and to protect the committee members from accusations of bias.

A suggested policy was attached at Appendix 1.

RESOLVED:

To approve the Assessment Criteria submitted at Appendix 1 to the report, and as amended at the meeting.

(Councillor Boot not present during consideration of the following item)

8 COMPLAINT FORM

The Monitoring Officer reported that Committee decided at the last meeting to operate with a separate complaint form for complaints

against members.

A suggested complaint form was submitted at Appendix 2 for consideration.

RESOLVED:

To approve the form as submitted, and as amended at the meeting.

(Mr Proctor not present during consideration of the following item)

9 MEMBERSHIP

The Monitoring Officer reminded Members that the Standards Committee was to be increased to a membership of:

- 4 Independent Members
- 4 Parish Members
- 3 Elected Members

and that the recruitment of Members to the Committee be delegated to this Committee.

It was recommended that the Committee establish a Recruitment Working Group to deal with the recruitment and recommendations for appointment of additional Independent and Parish Members of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That a Recruitment Working Group be formed with an Elected Member (Councillor P Barnes), an Independent Member (Mr J Baggaley), and a Parish Member (Mr G Parkinson) to make recommendations to Council for appointments to the Standards Committee.

The meeting closed at 6.15pm.