



STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Meeting: Wednesday, 5 July 2023 at 6.30 pm in Board Room, Pavilion Gardens, Buxton

Present: Councillor R Quinn (Chair)

Councillors P Hacking, D Lomax, K Sizeland and J Taylor

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Gardner and N Gourlay

Councillor A Barrow and Mr Philip Carnall were also in attendance.

24/1 TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST ON ANY MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE
(Agenda Item 2)

There were no declarations made.

24/2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
(Agenda Item 3)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2023 be approved as a correct record.

24/3 STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
(Agenda Item 4)

The Committee considered a report that reviewed the work of the Standards Committee during 2022/2023. It was reported that it had previously proved difficult to recruit parish representatives, although some borough councillors were also parish councillors. Parish representatives act in an advisory capacity and are not-voting attendees. Some parish councils do choose to adopt the Brough Council's Code of Conduct but are able to use an alternative provided this consistent with the seven principles of public life.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

24/4 COUNCILLOR INDUCTION PROGRAMME
(Agenda Item 5)

The report provided an overview of the Councillor Induction Programme launched after the elections in May 2023. It was reported that consideration was being given to refurbishing IT equipment no longer used by councillors.

Members commented that it was good for training materials to be available after seminars should members not have been able to attend.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

24/5 CODE OF CONDUCT - DISPENSATIONS

(Agenda Item 6)

The Committee considered the grant of dispensations to councillors in the circumstances described within the report for a four year period. These dispensations had previously been granted following the all-out elections. The report included an additional proposal for dispensations to be approved with regards to Council Tax premiums. Following careful consideration the Committee agreed not to grant this specific dispensation.

RESOLVED:

That general dispensations be granted to all councillors, under Section 33 (2) of the Localism Act 2011, in respect of the circumstances outlined in paragraphs 6.4, 6.7 and 6.8 of the report, for a period of four years, except for any decision relating to the setting of Council Tax Premiums.

24/6 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

(Agenda Item 7)

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business as there may be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

24/7 EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(Agenda Item 8)

RESOLVED:

That the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2023 be approved as a correct record.

24/8 COMPLAINTS - STANDARDS COMMITTEE MONITORING REPORT

(Agenda Item 9)

It was reported that there had been no Standards complaints made since the last report.

The meeting concluded at 7.08pm

CHAIRMAN