

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (SMDC) DECISIONS

FRIDAY, 26 JULY 2024

PRESENT: Councillor A Church (Chair)

Councillors Mr J Berrisford, B Emery, E Fallows, I Herdman,
Mr L Jackson, Councillor W Rogers, M Spooner, G Taylor and
C Wood

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor(s) B Cawley and P Roberts

APOLOGIES: Councillors C Jebb and P Wilkinson

17 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY:**

There were no declarations of interest.

18 **TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

19 **URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS, IF ANY (24 HOURS NOTICE TO BE PROVIDED TO THE CHAIRMAN).**

There were no urgent items of business.

20 **REVIEW OF COUNCIL MEETING PROCEDURE RULES**

Members received a report which proposed to revise the Council Meeting Procedure Rules and update the delegations to officers following consideration by the Constitution Review Working Party.

In accordance with Article 15 of the Constitution the Working Party was tasked with reviewing the workings of the Constitution to ensure it remained relevant and up-to-date. Since its initial adoption the Constitution had been reviewed in its entirety and consequential updates had frequently been made as a result of changes to legislation. However, as a matter of good practice, it is recommended that elements are reviewed periodically to ensure that the Constitution remains fit for purpose. It was suggested that the Council Meeting Procedure Rules be reviewed due to their importance to the Council's decision making process.

Members discussed making recommendations to the government, decision maker on permissible motions, moral issues, leaders encouraging members to pursue concerns through the correct committees, substitute members and members dispensation.

RESOLVED:

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1. That the recommendation in 14.7 be amended to “should not merely repeat comments already made in the meeting”.
2. That the report be approved.

21 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED:

That, pursuant to Section 100A(2) and (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings whereby it is likely that confidential information as defined in Section 100A (3) of the Act would be disclosed to the public in breach of the obligation of confidence or exempt information as defined in Section 100 I (1) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act would be disclosed to the public by virtue of the Paragraphs indicated

22 **TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

RESOLVED:

That the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

23 **COMPLAINT MONITORING REPORT**

Members were presented with information regarding complaints made under the Code of Conduct in the period since the committee previously met. This included complaints made against two parish/town councillors and five district councillors.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 10.58 am

Chairman