

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

15 September 2008

Attendance:

Mr P Smith (Independent Member - Chairman) (P)

Councillors:

Barratt (P)
Baxter (P)
Berry (P)
Chamberlain (P)

Hiscock (P)
Lipscomb (P)
Nelmes (P)

Independent Members and Parish Representatives in attendance

Ms J Collins (Independent Member)
Ms M McCormack (Independent Member)
Ms S Peach (Independent Member)

Mr M Evans (Parish Representative)
Mr J Harris (Parish Representative)

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Ms L Banister (Parish Representative) and Mr M Westwell (Parish Representative).

2. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 7 April 2008 be approved and adopted.

3. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2008/09 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Hiscock be appointed as Vice Chairman of the Committee for the 2008/09 Municipal Year.

4. **LOCAL HANDLING OF CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS** (Report ST70 refers)

During discussion, the Corporate Director (Governance) confirmed that the training session regarding the new complaints filtering and determination

system, which was held on 7 July 2008, would be repeated for those Members of the Committee who were unable to attend at that time. As before, any other interested Member of the Council would also be able to attend.

With regard to informing parish councils, it was noted that a training session for parish councillors and clerks would be held on Thursday 16 October 2008 at Bishops Waltham.

RESOLVED:

1. That the criteria for the assessment of complaints as set out in Appendix 1 to the above report be approved.

2. That the following descriptions be used for the Standards Sub-Committee to reflect the type and stage of individual case being considered:

(a) Standards (Assessment) Sub-Committee

(b) Standards (Review) Sub-Committee

(c) Standards (Determinations) Sub-Committee

with the appointments to each type of Sub-Committee being made in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 20 (4).

3. That Council Procedure Rule 20(4) be approved with the minor amendments set out in the report.

4. That, in future, any investigation reports with a finding of no breach of the Code be considered by the Standards (Determinations) Sub Committee, rather than the full Committee, in accordance with the updated guidance from the Standards Board.

5. **REVIEW OF YEAR AND FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**
(Report ST71 refers)

RESOLVED:

That the report be received and noted.

6. **STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND – BULLETINS 38, 39 AND 40**
(Report ST69 refers)

RESOLVED:

That the content of Bulletins 38, 39 and 40 from the Standards Board for England be received and noted.

The meeting commenced at 6.15pm and concluded at 7.10pm

Chairman