

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 1st July, 2015

Present: Cllr Miss J L Sergison (Chairman), Cllr D J Cure (Vice-Chairman), Cllr D A S Davis (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Ms J A Atkinson, Cllr Mrs P A Bates, Cllr R P Betts, Cllr Mrs B A Brown, Cllr T Edmondston-Low, Cllr D Lettington, Cllr P J Montague, Cllr C P Smith, Ms D Alford-Smith (Snodland), Mrs L Bright (Hadlow), Mr P Crawford (East Peckham), Mrs P Darby (Platt), Mrs T Dawson (Borough Green), Mr D Elvy (Aylesford), Prof M McKinlay (Ryarsh), Mr R Selkirk (West Malling) and Mr D Waller (Kings Hill)

Councillors Mrs J A Anderson, O C Baldock, M A Coffin, B J Luker, S C Perry and M Taylor were also present pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No 15.21.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs S Bell, Mr D S Ashton (Independent Person), Mr J A Beadle (Ditton), Mr D Thornewell (East Malling and Larkfield) and Mr R Ulph (Leybourne)

PART 1 - PUBLIC

ST 15/7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

ST 15/8 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Standards Committee held on 19 January 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION

ST 15/9 INTRODUCTION TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee received a presentation from the Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer, introducing the work of the Joint Standards Committee for the particular benefit of new Borough Members and Parish/Town Council representatives. An outline was given of the standards regime, the requirement to adopt a Code of Conduct and the rules governing Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. Details were discussed of arrangements for the investigation of allegations in Tonbridge and Malling, the role of the Joint Standards Committee and operation of the Hearings Panel.

The Director of Central Services answered a number of questions raised at the meeting.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE

ST 15/10 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chairman moved, it was seconded and

RESOLVED: That as public discussion would disclose exempt information, the following matters be considered in private.

PART 2 - PRIVATE

MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION

ST 15/11 UPDATE - CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS

(LGA 1972 Sch 12A Paragraph 1 – Information relating to an individual)

The report of the Monitoring Officer provided an update on complaints received since September 2014.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

The meeting ended at 8.20 pm