

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, 5th June, 2024

Present: Cllr D A S Davis (Chair), Cllr K Barton, Cllr G C Bridge, Cllr J Clokey (substitute), Cllr M Coffin (substitute), Cllr J R S Lark, Cllr B A Parry and Cllr C Williams (substitute).

Together with parish/town council representatives Mr W Stead (Burham Parish Council), Mr N Newman (Ditton Parish Council), Mr O Baldock (Hadlow Parish Council) and W Palmer (Platt Parish Council).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs S Bell (Vice-Chair), A G Bennison, M R Rhodes*, R V Roud, K B Tanner; and Parish Councillors C Short (Addington Parish Council), Mr M Williams* (East Peckham Parish Council), Mr M Carboni (Plaxtol Parish Council) and Prof M McKinlay (Ryarsh Parish Council).

(*apologies for in-person attendance submitted and participated via MS Teams)

PART 1 - PUBLIC

ST 24/1 NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Notification of substitute Members were recorded as set out below:

- Cllr Clokey substituted for Cllr Roud
- Cllr Coffin substituted for Cllr Tanner
- Cllr Williams substituted for Cllr Bell

In accordance with Council Procedure Rules 17.5 to 17.9 these Councillors had the same rights as the ordinary member of the committee for whom they were substituting.

ST 24/2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

ST 24/3 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Standards Committee held on 12 July 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS TO BE TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**ST 24/4 JOINT STANDARDS COMMITTEE - PARISH/TOWN REPRESENTATIVES AND VOTING ALLOCATIONS**

Following consultation with Parish/Town Councils and the Parish Partnership Panel at the latter end of 2023, the report of the Interim Chief Executive confirmed parish/town representatives for the Joint Standards Committee. The Chair of the Committee and the Monitoring Officer had also been consulted upon the proposals.

A revised 'pool' of parish and town council representatives was set out in Annex 1 together with proposed voting allocations for 2024-26. It was confirmed that not being assigned voting rights didn't prevent parish/town representatives from participating in meetings of the Committee but removed confusion around voting.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the revised 'pool' for parish and town council representatives (set out in Annex 1) be noted;
- (2) the voting allocations for 2024-26 (as set out in Annex 1) and duplicated below be endorsed:

2024/25	Burham, Ditton, Hadlow, Platt, Plaxtol and Ryarsh;
2025/26	Addington, Aylesford, Borough Green, East Peckham, Kings Hill and Trottiscliffe;
2026/27	Snodland, Wrotham and 4 vacancies

MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION**ST 24/5 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS**

The Committee received an update on the complaints made to the Monitoring Officer that a Member may have failed to comply with the their authority's code of conduct.

Details of the complaints received since the last meeting of the Joint Standards Committee were set out in Annex 1. Six further complaints were currently subject to initial assessment.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE

ST 24/6 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items considered in private.

The meeting ended at 8.00 pm
having started at 7.50 pm