

# Standards Committee

## Minutes

Wednesday, 18 November 2015 at 14:00

Present :

Councillor Lawn (In the Chair), Councillors Andrews and Robinson-Payne.

Councillor Jermay attended as a substitute for Councillor M Coleman.

Also present were :

Mr L Gent (Parish Council Representative), Mr C Skinner ( Monitoring Officer), Mr R Hodds (Deputy Monitoring Officer), Parish Councillor R Huxtable and Sarah Hunt (Martham Parish Council)

### **1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor M Coleman.

### **3 MINUTES**

### **4 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT AGAINST COUNCILLOR HUXTABLE**

The committee considered the report of Mr D Johnson, Solicitor nplaw who had been appointed as the Investigating Officer into a complaint by Mr T Willis of 7 Pine Close Martham, that a Martham Parish Councillor Robert Huxtable had breached the Parish Council's Code of Conduct by failing to declare an interest as required by the code. The Monitoring Officer had concluded that there had been no breach of the code by Parish Councillor Huxtable but Mr Willis had exercised his right of appeal and had requested that the matter be considered by the Standards Committee.

The Monitoring Officer reminded the Committee that they should decide if it considers a breach has occurred and if so what, if any, sanctions would be appropriate.

The Monitoring Officer pointed out that the complainant Mr Willis had been invited to attend but had chosen not to do so. The Committee also considered comments made by Parish Councillor Huxtable and by the Parish Clerk of Martham Parish Council.

RESOLVED

That having heard the evidence and having read the papers the Standards Committee conclude that no further action should be taken on this matter.

**5 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT AGAINST COUNCILLOR JOHNSON**

The Committee agreed that in the absence of Parish Councillor Johnson this matter should be deferred to a future meeting.

**6 VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON STANDARDS COMMITTEE.**

The Standards Committee considered applications for the Parish Council representative to serve on the Standards Committee from Mr P Manifold of Martham Parish Council and Mr H Webb of Caister on Sea Parish Council.

RESOLVED

That Council be recommended to agree that Mr P Manifold of Martham Parish Council be appointed as a Parish Council Representative to serve on the Standards Committee.

The meeting ended at: 15:10