

SUBJECT : Report on complaints 2013

Report to Standards Committee

Report by Monitoring Officer

Subject Matter

The Committee is asked to note the details of Code of Conduct Complaints received in 2013.

- 1 A report setting out complaints received in 2013, and the action taken, is attached.
- 2 Seven complaints were received in 2013. Two related to Borough Councillors, the rest to Parish Councillors.
- 3 Hopton Parish Councillors form one of the largest group of people who are the subject of complaint.
- 4 Four complaints were investigated and there was only one finding of breach of the Code. There is one appeal pending.

COMPLAINANT	COUNCILLOR	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	ACTION	COMMENTS
Mrs Rivett, Hemsby Jan 2013	Shirley Weymouth (GYBC)	Councillor had been "bad mouthing" her son	No further action	Appeal to Standards Committee, which decided to have the complaint investigated. No breach subsequently found.
Mr D Thompson, Filby Feb 2013	David Thompson (Filby PC)	Dealt with planning application unfairly	No further action	Complaint related to a matter some 6 years old. Little evidence of breach.
Mrs E Myhill, Belton Feb 2013	John Rudrum (Belton with Browston PC)	Failing to treat with respect	Investigation	Breach found. Written apology given by John Rudrum
Sheena McBain. Great Yarmouth July 2013	Michael Jeal (GYBC)	Rude at a public meeting	No further action	Did not warrant investigation
Mr Brown, Hopton Sept 2013	Lennie Gent (Hopton PC)	Suggested people working on site as volunteers were not wearing hard hats	No further action	Did not warrant investigation
Julian Canham, Hopton Sept 2013	Lennie Gent (Hopton PC)	Made disparaging remarks about parishioners calling for an election	Investigation	"No breach" conclusion of investigation
Mrs Baker, Hopton Sept 2013	Lennie Grant (Hopton PC) James Walker (Hopton PC)	As above	Investigation	Appeal to Standards Committee pending, following "no breach" conclusion of investigation
Mr M Pearce, Hopton Jan 2014	Steve Ames (Hopton PC)	Failure to leave meeting when disclosable pecuniary interest		Awaiting Independent Person's comments
B Hardisty, Hopton Jan 2014	Jean Canham (Hopton PC)	Failing to read papers and not taking on her responsibilities		Awaiting Independent Person's comments