

# Standards Committee

## Minutes

Wednesday, 02 April 2014 at 09:30

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Sutton (in the Chair), Councillors Collins, Jeal and Pettit.

Mr B Jewell (Parish Council Member also attended.)

Mr C Skinner (Monitoring Officer), Mr D Johnson (nplaw), Mr R Hodds (Deputy Monitoring Officer) and Mrs L Mockford (Group Manager Governance).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stone, Parish Councillor Gent and Mr A Oram (Independent Advisor).

### **1 MINUTES**

The minute of the meeting held on 19 November 2013 were confirmed.

### **2 BREACH OF THE HOPTON PARISH COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **3 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS**

The Committee received for information the Monitoring Officer's report on the details of the Code of Conduct Complaints received in 2013.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the Monitoring Officer's report be noted.
- (ii) That all decisions of the Standards Committee be the subject of a press release.

### **4 HEARING PROCESS**

The Committee considered the Monitoring Officer's report on the proposed procedure for a hearing process.

**RESOLVED:**

That the hearing process as detailed in the Monitoring Officer's report be approved.

### **5 MEMBERS HANDBOOK**

The Committee considered the proposed Great Yarmouth Borough Council Members Handbook for 2013 to 2015. The Group Manager (Governance) reported that the preparation of this Handbook had been the subject of discussion by a Sub Committee appointed by the Scrutiny Committee of the Borough Council to revise and re format

this Handbook.

**RESOLVED:**

That the proposed Great Yarmouth Borough Council Members Handbook 2013 to 2015 be approved subject to the following amendments:-

- \* Amendment to the text in relation to Declarations of Interest.
- \* The removal of the photographs on the front cover of the Handbook.
- \* Amendment to the text in relation to the insurance cover for Members attending outside bodies.

**6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Committee agreed that at their next meeting Members would consider the issue of the ability of Parish Councillors on the Standards Committee being able to vote and not just acting as observers.

The meeting ended at: 12:25