

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **STANDARDS SUB COMMITTEE** held at Room 13, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford on Friday, 13 June 2014

PRESENT

Cllrs Mrs J G Lawrence
K C Matthews

Cllrs R C Stay

Officers in Attendance: Mrs M Clay – Chief Legal and Democratic Services Officer
Ms M Damigos – Corporate Lawyer
Mr L Manning – Committee Services Officer

SSC/14/1. **Appointment of Chairman**

RESOLVED

that Councillor R C Stay be appointed Chairman of the Sub-Committee for this meeting only.

SSC/14/2. **Members' Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

SSC/14/3. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

RESOLVED

that in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that consideration of the item is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

SSC/14/4. **Complaint Against a Northhill Parish Councillor**

The Sub-Committee considered and reviewed a report by the Council's Investigating Officer into a number of complaints against a Northhill Parish Councillor. Whilst the report had recommended that the Monitoring Officer should seek a local resolution to the complaints the Monitoring Officer informed the meeting of issues which indicated that further examination, and possible action beyond that recommended by the Investigating Officer, was required.

Having fully discussed all aspects of the information before them Members concurred with the views expressed by the Monitoring Officer and indicated their support for a public hearing to be held into the complaints.

RESOLVED

- 1 that the local resolution of the complaints against the Northhill Parish Councillor, as referred to in the report of the Council's Investigating Officer, is not considered appropriate;**
- 2 that the Standards Sub-Committee conduct a public hearing into the complaints made against the Parish Councillor before deciding whether that Member has failed to comply with the adopted Code of Conduct and, if so, whether to take any action in respect of this matter;**
- 3 that the following persons be invited to attend the hearing to give evidence:**
 - the Independent Person previously appointed by the Council**
 - the complainee**
 - any witnesses the complainee may wish to call**
 - the complainants**
 - the former Chairman of Northhill Parish Council**
 - the current Chairman of Northhill Parish Council**
 - the Central Bedfordshire Council ward Member.**

(Note: The meeting commenced at 1.00 p.m. and concluded at 1.32 p.m.)