



Complaints about a Member of a Council's failure to behave

1. Your name:

David Kay

2. Contact details:

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Telephone:

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3. Full name of the person
the complaint is about:

Councillor Ian Robinson

4. Name of the Council of
which they are a member:

Northill Parish Council

5. Requesting your identity to be kept confidential:

(Please note that requests for confidentiality or anonymity will not automatically be granted. The Monitoring Officer will consider the request alongside the substance of your complaint)

Reason for anonymity:

6. Nature of the Complaint:

(definitions of these terms can be found at the end of this form).

Please tick the relevant categories

- Selflessness Selflessness
- Integrity Integrity
- Objectivity Objectivity
- Accountability Accountability
- Openness Openness
- Honesty Honesty
- Leadership Leadership

7. Please set out the details of your complaint:

1) Councillor Robinson has failed to set the kind of example electors are entitled to expect.
2) Has failed to show courtesy and respect for others
3) Has aggressively harassed the Clerk and Chairman of Council during public meetings.
4) Had the above been isolated to one meeting it might be just considered "out of character", but this behaviour has been a frequent feature of our council meetings.
5) I was finally prompted to complain because of Councillor Robinson's extraordinarily aggressive and unpleasant performance at our council meeting on 8th April 2013, on which occasion he loudly and repeatedly questioned the Clerk and Chair, despite having already received perfectly adequate answers – which he seemed unable to accept. He refused to let other councillors speak by insisting that he was "not finished". Councillor Robinson failed to summarise the Affordable Housing issues that attending parishioners has carefully prepared even though he purportedly was representing their case. Finally, the Clerk had taken enough bullying and walked out, causing our Chair to adjourn the meeting. This was a most embarrassing incident for Northill Parish. As a one-off it might be excused after apologies, but this happens all too frequently. Councillor Robinson seems incapable of accepting any decision he does not agree with then pursues this to the point of bringing a good Parish Council into disrepute. I struggle to understand why an otherwise intelligent person cannot exercise a measure of control required under the Nolan Principles.

8. Please identify any documents which would support your complaint:

- 1. Various e-mails from our Clerk which she may attach requiring this councillor to adhere to proper Councillor Code of Practice
- i)
- 2.
- ii)
- 3.
- iii)

Please indicate the outcome you would like to achieve by submitting this complaint:

b) other (please provide details)

If other, please give details:

Ideally, I would prefer that Cllr Robinson was asked to resign. Why should our Clerk, Chair and other councillors anticipate meetings dreading that another destructive episode might prevent us carrying out council business properly.

When you have completed all of the form, we would ask that you check through the information and then save or print a copy for your records.

What standards of Conduct are elected Members of a Council expected to observe? (section 6 above refers)

Selflessness:Members must always act in the public interestMembers must never use their position as a member of the Council improperly to secure for themselves or any other person, an advantage or disadvantage.Members must not use the Council's resources improperly for personal or party political purposes.

IntegrityMembers must not do anything which compromises or is likely to compromise the impartiality of those who work for, or on behalf of, the Council.Members must not disclose information given to them in confidence.

Objectivity:When making decisions on behalf of the Council, including awarding contracts or making appointments, Members must do so on merit.Members must have regard to any relevant advice provided to them by the Council's officers and, in particular, the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, where such advice is provided pursuant to their statutory duties*.</li

(*Note: This paragraph will need to be revised in the case of town and parish councils).

AccountabilityMembers must act in accordance with their legal obligations, including the following Acts of Parliament that confer special obligations on elected councillors:Local Government Act 1972Employment Rights Act 1996Data Protection Act 1998Freedom of Information Act 2000Bribery Act 2010Equality Act 2010Localism Act 2011Members must act in accordance with the Council's policies and reasonable requirements, including any protocols and codes of practice that may apply. (e.g. in respect of Member/Officer Relations, ICT, Member Allowances etc).

OpennessMembers must give reasons for any decisions taken on behalf of the Council in accordance with any statutory requirements and the Council's Constitution.Members must not prevent another person from gaining access to information to which that person is entitled by law.

HonestyMembers must declare any disclosable (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) interests or conflicts of interest that may arise in respect of their responsibilities as a member of the Council.Members must at all times ensure that any claims for expenses, allowances, and any use of facilities and services provided by the Council, are strictly in accordance with the rules laid down on these matters.

LeadershipMembers must set an example by their behaviour and shall act in a way that enhances public trust and confidence in the integrity of the Council and its Members. Members must show respect and courtesy to others.Members should value the Council's officers and work alongside them to achieve the Council's objectives.In their dealings with the Council's employees, Members must have regard to the Council's protocol on Member/Officer Relations and on no account should they behave in a manner that might constitute bullying.

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