

**Complaints about a Member of a Council's failure to behave****1. Your name:**

Wendi Momen

2. Contact details:

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Post code:

SG18 9AD

Email:

wendi@northill.demon.co.uk

Telephone:

1767627626

**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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Selflessness |
| Integrity | <input type="checkbox"/> Integrity |
| Objectivity | <input type="checkbox"/> Objectivity |
| Accountability | <input type="checkbox"/> Accountability |
| Openness | <input type="checkbox"/> Openness |
| Honesty | <input type="checkbox"/> Honesty |
| Leadership | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leadership |

7. Please set out the details of your complaint:

Councillor Robinson has:

- 1) Failed to set an example by his behaviour and failed to act in a way that enhances public trust and confidence in the integrity of the Council and its Members.
- 2) Failed to show respect and courtesy to others.
- 3) Failed to value the Council's officer and to work alongside her to achieve the Council's objectives; and has behaved in a manner to her and to other Councillors that might constitute bullying.

This follows from an hour-long 'rant' by Councillor Robinson at a meeting of the Parish Council on Monday, 8 April, in the presence of a number of members of the public. I do not question his right to raise points on the minutes, which was the vehicle used in the first instance, nor to respond to points raised by the public in the time allotted to them (although he was not invited by the chair to do so) but he belittled two other Councillors who tried to reason with him, refused to give the floor, despite the requests of the chair, was highly disrespectful to the chair, and, most significantly, made sustained ad hominem attacks on the Clerk, such that they amounted to bullying. So sustained was this attack that the Clerk was nearly in tears and had to leave the room. He repeatedly asked questions to which he received perfectly adequate answers - he simply did not like the responses, as they were not in his favour. He was loud, aggressive, impolite to other Councillors and disdainful of the requirements of courtesy and impartiality. To me, who sat opposite him, he made faces and glared, and I was frightened. It saddens me to say this, as I personally like Mr Robinson.

Further, this is far from the first time that the Clerk has been victim to his attacks. I do not know why he seems to have a personal vendetta against the Clerk but it is now carried into the public setting in such a way as to cause not only distress to her personally but to bring the whole Council into disrepute. I cannot bring documents to support this, as I do not have the minutes of the meeting yet, but I am probably not alone in laying this complaint. Please do publish my name.

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

1.

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:

Removal from the Council, if this is possible. I find it impossible to work with a Councillor who seems intent on discrediting an outstanding Parish Clerk and the Parish Council itself, using bullying tactics to achieve this, and who dishonours the public by using their 'interests' as a rationale for his behaviour.

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*.

(*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.

Data Protection

Central Bedfordshire Council ensures any personal data collected will be retained securely for as long as necessary and only used for legitimate Council activities to facilitate the delivery of Council services, or for the purpose of preventing and/or detecting fraud and/or crime, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Central Bedfordshire Council's Data Protection policy is available from the website at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/dpa or by writing to the Corporate Data Protection Officer at Central Bedfordshire Council Offices, Priory House, Chicksands, Shefford. SG17 5TQ