



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

1. Your name:

2. Contact details:

Address:

Post code:

Email:

Telephone:

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

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

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:

I reluctantly have to make a complaint about Councillor Robinson As a new Councillor and having read the good Councillor guide as well as putting myself forward for Councillor induction training Councillor Robinson has set the worst kind of example to myself as a new Councillor

I have been going to council meeting for some time I have witnessed the behavior of Councillor Robinson get steadily worse from both a member of the public and now a Councillor.

Examples of what I have witnessed

- Conflict of interest, representing both a local groups he is involved within the council and not acting in the interests of the local residents (although he had declared an interest in the matter he still insisted in being extremely forceful in his own interest
- Councillor Robinson is in close contact and representing two particular parishioners who have been sanctioned under an internal policy for dealing with habitual or vexatious complaints, even though he signed up to that policy and agreed with the sanction
- At a recent parish council meeting 8th April Councillor Robinson's behavior was unacceptable. He was both aggressive and bullying to the Council, the Chair and most particularly our female Clerk. When responses to his points were given either he talked over the response or if the response was unacceptable to him and the parishioners at the meeting. The tirade off attracts eventually resulted in the Clerk leaving the meeting very upset. The meeting was the adjourned.
- The behavior exhibited by Councillor Robinson would have been unacceptable in any public situation. The behavior was unacceptable in a workplace (the Parish Council employee the Clerk and therefore by extension Councillor Robinson is one of her Employers)
- But most importantly the behavior was totally unacceptable in the environment of a Parish Council Meeting.

I therefore can only conclude that Councillor Robinson has brought the Parish council into Disrepute

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

- 1.
- 1)
- 2.

ii)

3.

iii)

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

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 interest. Members 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.

Integrity: Members 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).

Accountability: Members must act in accordance with their legal obligations, including the following Acts of Parliament that confer special obligations on elected councillors: Local Government Act 1972, Employment Rights Act 1996, Data Protection Act 1998, Freedom of Information Act 2000, Bribery Act 2010, Equality Act 2010, Localism Act 2011. Members 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).

Openness: Members 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.

Honesty: Members 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.

Leadership: Members 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