



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

1. Your name:

Keith Bennett

2. Contact details:

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

Cllr 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:

At the Northhill Parish Council meeting on the 8 September 2013; Cllr Ian Robinson repeatedly failed to show respect and acknowledge the authority of the Chair. He did not stop talking when requested to by the Chair, talked over the Chair and monopolised the proceedings. Furthermore he was not courteous to other Councillors. At the meeting he repeatedly made statements which were contrary to resolutions previously made by Council, thus bringing the Council into disrepute by his actions.

Cllr Ian Robinson harassed the Clerk to such an extent that she left the meeting in a distressed state. The Chairman subsequently closed the meeting. Cllr Ian Robinson's behaviour was witnessed by Parish Councillors and a County Councillor together with a larger than normal gathering of the general public. His improper behaviour has also occurred at previous Council meetings.

Although Cllr Ian Robinson has been referred to "The Good Councillors Guide" by our Clerk, I feel he has not taken on board the requirements of how to conduct himself in meetings. He is discourteous and disrespectful to others.

In my opinion Cllr Ian Robinson has failed to:

1. Acknowledge that once a proposal has been agreed it becomes a resolution and is not open to further discussion.
2. Accept that some of the statements he makes at meetings brings the Council into disrepute.
3. Accept the advice and guidance offered by our Clerk.
4. Conduct himself in accordance with the requirements of The Good Councillors Guide and Code of Conduct.
5. Act in accordance with Council policy on bullying and harassment by behaving in a manner to our employee that might constitute bullying.
6. Set an example by his behaviour to enhance public trust.
7. Show respect to others.

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

- 1. Council documents are available
- 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:

Termination of Cllr Ian Robinson status as a Parish Councillor

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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