

APPENDIX M

19706

[REDACTED]

11.4.2013

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL, ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING BY
CHAIRMAN, ON 8.4.2013.

I write as an elector in the Northhill Parish, who served as a Councillor for over 20 years followed by 12 years as Clerk to the Parish Council. Now retired, I still retain an interest in Parish affairs, and occasionally attend Council Meetings.

Whilst never one to attempt to curtail freedom of speech, I have been increasingly concerned at the ongoing activities of Councillor Robinson at meetings.. He appears to be raising issues and commenting on almost every item on the agenda of meetings. Whilst his remarks could be considered as relevant to the discussion, he is so persistent, that they could often be described as "nit picking".

It is difficult to assess his motive for this continuous raising of small issues, which are sometimes veiled assertions of the Chairman's conduct of meetings, and the competence of the Clerk. The matter unfortunately became so uncomfortable at the Council meeting on Monday of this week, that the Clerk (popular, competent & well qualified), took the exceptional action, of walking out of the meeting, probably in some distress, thus forcing the Chairman to adjourn the meeting.

This means that no further business was conducted that evening, causing the Council further expense in arranging another meeting to continue its unfinished business, prior to the Annual Meeting in Mid May.

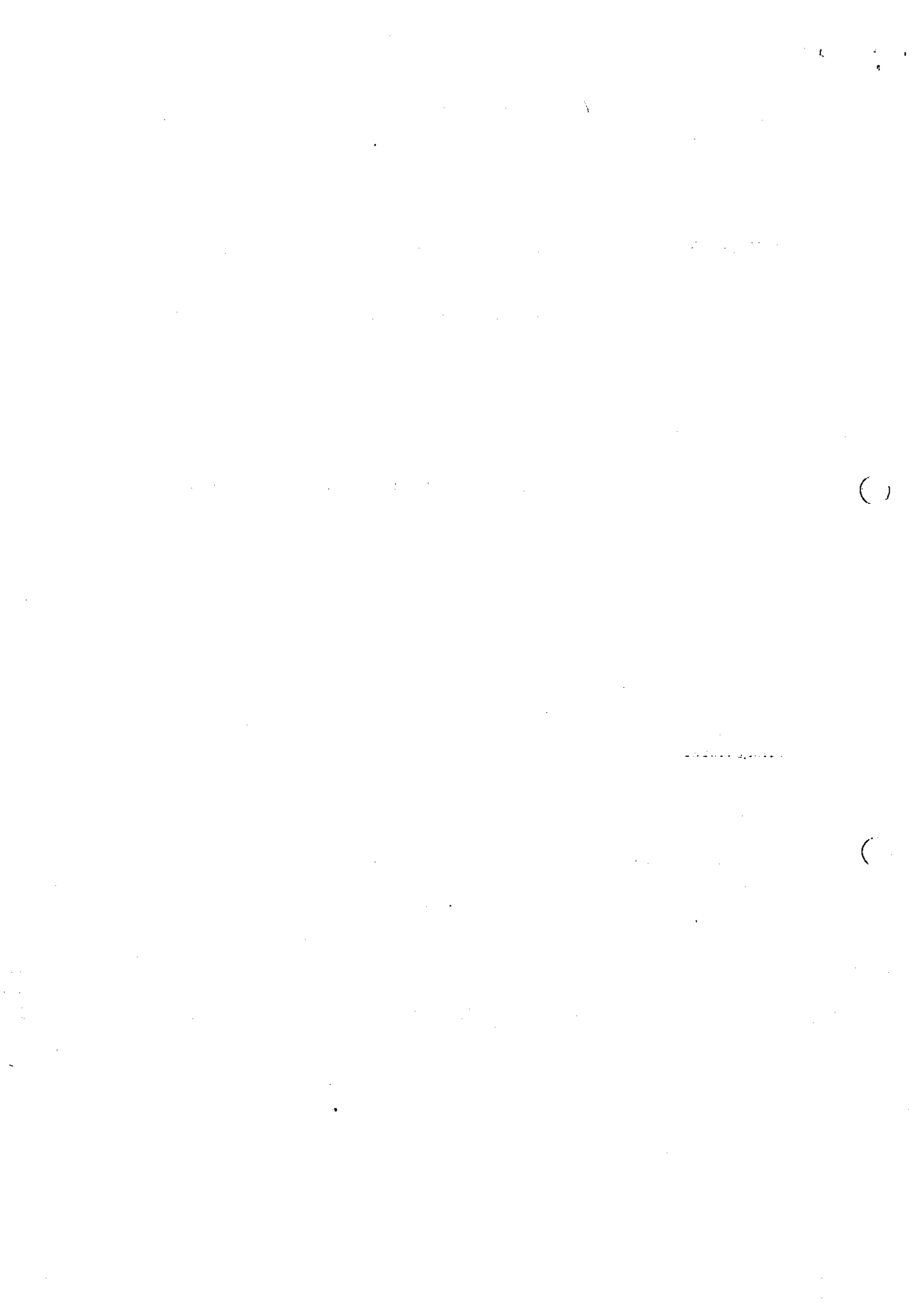
I hope this incident has been reported officially to your Office, as this is an event unprecedented in the past 40 years of Northhill Parish Council, and calls into question its reputation of businesslike, calm and orderly management of its affairs.

I know many local electors are concerned at this state of affairs, which is primarily caused by the activities of one individual Councillor.

My questions to you, are,

* Is there any way in which a more co-operative & less abrasive attitude could be impressed on this Councillor ?

* Has the Parish Council any sanctions it could bring to bear ?

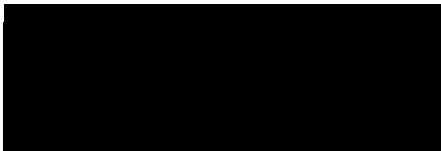


Page 2.

- * Can the Parish Council resolve to suspend a Councillor for vexatious conduct ?.
- * Do you have any powers to call this Councillor to behave in a more co-operative way ?

Your comments and advice on this issue would be much appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Alan P Bigg.

Alan P Bigg

To :

The Information Commissioner
Central Beds Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands
Shefford SG17 5TQ

cc. Chairman. Northill Parish Council
Clerk. Northill Parish Council.
Secretary, Beds Assn. Town & Parish Councils.