

## Minutes of a meeting of the Standards Committee held on Thursday, 22 September 2016 in Committee Room 5, City Hall, Bradford

Commenced      3.00 pm  
Concluded        3.15 pm

**Present – Councillors**

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
D Smith Townend	Jamil Lal M Slater	J Sunderland

NON VOTING CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Jean Pitts  
Michael Westerman

Parish & Town Council Member  
Parish & Town Council Member

Apologies: Councillor Sarah Ferriby and Mohammed Shakeel

**Councillor Jamil in the Chair**

**1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

No disclosures of interest in matters under consideration were received.

**2. MINUTES**

**Resolved –**

- (1) That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2015 be signed as a correct record.**
- (2) That the minutes of the meetings of the Complaints Sub-Committee held on 22 February and 24 March 2016 be signed as a correct record.**

*ACTION: City Solicitor*



### 3. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals by the submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

### 4. APPOINTMENT OF A COMPLAINTS SUB-COMMITTEE

Previous Reference: Council, Minutes 9 & 11 (2016/17)

The Committee was advised that it was required to appoint a Complaints Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee would be made up of three voting Members of the Standards Committee, one of whom must be from the same political group as the subject Member (wherever possible), but not all of the Members would be from the same political group. The Chair would be elected from among the membership at the beginning of the meeting, but could not be from the same political group as the subject Member.

The Sub-Committee was required to hear and determine allegations of breach of the relevant code(s) of conduct by Members of Council and of Parish and Town Councils respectively.

**Resolved –**

**That a Complaints Sub-Committee be appointed with memberships and role and functions as contained in the resolution of Council made on 10 July 2012 and subject to the Rules of Procedure contained in Part 3 of the Constitution adopted by Annual Council on 17 May 2016.**

*ACTION: City Solicitor*

### 5. ANNUAL REPORT ON CONCLUDED COMPLAINTS

The Monitoring Officer proposed that an annual overview report be provided to the Committee giving a summary of those complaints which had been dealt with to the point of conclusion during the municipal year.

**Resolved –**

**That the Committee receive an annual report on concluded complaints at the final meeting of this and future municipal years.**

*ACTION: City Solicitor*

### 6. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Previous Reference: Council, Minute 25 (2016/17)

Members recalled that, at the meeting of Council held on 12 July 2016, an amendment to the Members Code of Conduct, which formed part of the Constitution, had been made. The amendment had been in respect of training for



elected and co-opted members on child sexual exploitation (CSE)

The Monitoring Officer provided a verbal update on that amendment, reminding members that the training had been made compulsory for all members, with a time scale of three months for returning members and six months for new members.

Members noted that the training was already well underway within their respective groups.

The Monitoring Officer requested that, if any Member had comments to make on the training, they should advise her direct.

*ACTION: City Solicitor*

## **7. THE ROLE OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE IN RESPECT OF DISPENSATIONS**

The Monitoring Officer reminded Members that, under the current regulations, the Standards Committee had a role to play in respect of granting dispensations to voting members who would otherwise have to declare a disposable pecuniary interest, in line with part two of the Members Code of Conduct .

The Constitution did not currently make the role of the Committee sufficiently clear and the Monitoring Officer discussed with the Committee options for updating the Constitution, following which she undertook to present a report to the next meeting of the Committee.

*ACTION: City Solicitor*

## **8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Members of the Committee were asked for their view on a schedule of meetings for the remainder of this municipal year.

Suggested dates were provided and it was agreed that meetings be held on 8 December 2016 and 2 March 2107, with a later start time than had previously been used.

*ACTION: City Solicitor*

Chair

**Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Standards Committee.**

THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER

