

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 10 MARCH 2010

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Standards Committee held on Wednesday, 10 March 2010. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Holly Adams.

1. **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION - ARTICLE 9 - THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Standards Committee **RECOMMENDED TO THE CONSTITUTION REVIEW WORKING PARTY AND TO COUNCIL** that the following addition be made to Article 9 – The Standards Committee, as 9.02 (g) and subsequent paragraphs to be renumbered:

“9.02(g) **Removal of a Member due to non-attendance:** The Council may, on the recommendation of the Standards Committee, remove a Council, Independent or Parish Member from the Standards Committee if that member has missed four consecutive meetings of the body concerned (see Council Standing Order 23).”

The Standards Committee **DEFERRED** further consideration of amendments to Article 9 to an extraordinary meeting and requested that all members e-mail their specific concerns and suggestions to the Democratic Services Officer, copied to the Chairman, prior to the publication of the extraordinary meeting agenda.

2 (a) **BARTON Parish Council: Requests for Dispensations**

The Standards Committee **AGREED** to grant dispensations until May 2011 from items relating to Barton Recreation Ground Improvement Group (BRIG) to Barton Parish Councillors Hugh Greenfield, Mary MacDonald, Margaret Penston, Tim Scott, Nigel Siddall, Jane Walker and Karen Wilkins, with the reminder that they are still to declare an interest in any matters concerning BRIG by stating, “I declare an interest as a Trustee and member of the management committee of Barton Recreation Ground Improvement Group, for which I have been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee”.

The Standards Committee **ADVISED** Barton Parish Council that any new elected or co-opted Parish Councillors who are also Trustees and members of the management committee of Barton Recreation Ground must apply for dispensations immediately upon their election or co-option.

2 (b) **GAMLINGAY Parish Council: Further Request for Dispensation**

The Standards Committee **AGREED** to grant dispensations to Gamlingay Parish Councillors Gerald Burne and Richard Halpin from any matters concerning Gamlingay Community Centre, with the reminder that they are still to declare an interest and that they have been granted a dispensation by stating, “I declare an interest as a member of the holding / custodian trust for Gamlingay Community Centre, for which I have been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee”.

2 (c) **HAUXTON Parish Council: Request for Dispensation**

The Standards Committee **AGREED** to grant a three-year dispensation to Hauxton

Parish Councillor Anthony George Allison from any matters relating to the governance of the Hauxton Townsland Charity and the administration of Hauxton Village Green, with the reminder that he is still to declare an interest and that he has received a dispensation for that interest by stating, "I declare an interest as a de-facto Trustee of Hauxton Townsland Charity and elected Chairman of that body, for which I have been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee".

3. 2010-11 MEETING DATES

The Standards Committee **AGREED** to meet on the following dates and times in 2010-11:

- Wednesday 16 June 2010 at 10 am
- Wednesday 15 September 2010 at 10 am
- Wednesday 8 December 2010 at 10 am
- Wednesday 9 March 2011 at 10 am

4. PARISH LIAISON WORKING GROUP: PARISH COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE

The Standards Committee **AGREED** that the Parish Liaison Working Group's questionnaire, as amended, be distributed to all South Cambridgeshire Parish and Community Councils, with a deadline for completion of 12 May 2010. The Standards Committee **FURTHER AGREED** that a similar questionnaire be drafted for South Cambridgeshire Parish Meetings.

5. APPOINTMENT TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS 2010-14

The Standards Committee **AGREED** to appoint Bob Bryant, Kathy English and Alex Riley as the Independent Member Appointments Panel for the 2010-14 appointments process.

6. 2010 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES: A PLACE FOR STANDARDS - BIRMINGHAM, 18-19 OCTOBER 2010

The Standards Committee **AGREED** to pre-book five places for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and one representative each of the Council, Independent and Parish members. A decision on which specific members would attend would be made at the next meeting, 16 June 2010.

7. ANNUAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL 2010

Subject to inclusion of the amendments made at the meeting, the Standards Committee **AGREED** to delegate authority for finalisation of the Second Annual Standards Committee Report to Council to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Deputy Monitoring Officer, with electronic copies to be sent to all Standards Committee members.