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23rd February 2006

Our Ref: CT/SCA Your Ref:

Mrs L. Marsh, Recreation Ground Clerk The Parish Council's Office Histon & Impington Recreation Ground New Road Impington Cambridge CB4 9LU

Dear Mrs Marsh

Histon & Impington Recreation Ground Management Committee

Thank you for your letter of the 8th February, but not received here until the 16th, together with the enclosures as therein mentioned.

It is difficult for me to add anything very useful to what my predecessor Chris Taylor set out in his letter to you of the 14th March. The regulations in this matter are the "Relevant Authorities (Standards Committee) (Dispensations) Regulations 2002. In accordance with Regulation 3 the District Council's Standards Committee may grant a dispensation to a Member in the following circumstances:-

- (A) Transaction of business of the Authority (ie the Parish Council) would on each occasion on which the dispensation would apply, otherwise be impeded by or as a result of the mandatory provisions because:-
 - The number of Members of the Authority (the Parish Council) that are prohibited from participating in the business of the Authority exceeds 50% of those Members that are entitled or required to so participate; or
 - (ii) The Authority is not able to comply with any duty which applies to it under Section 15 (4) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (this second circumstance does not apply).

The relevant Member has to submit a written request for dispensation explaining why it is desirable and must submit it to the Standards Committee of the District Council who will determine the matter.

I can only suggest therefore that if your Members wish to apply for a dispensation pursuant to these Regulations they submit their case to me in writing in accordance with the Regulation 3 and that I then take the matter to Committee for determination.

If it assists, the next meeting of the Standards Committee is scheduled for 10th May 2006.

Yours sincerel

Colin Tucker Head of Legal Services