

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Standards Committee

14 November 2007

AUTHOR/S: Chief Executive / Democratic Services Officer

HISTON AND IMPINGTON PARISH COUNCILS: REQUEST TO REVOKE DISPENSATIONS

Purpose

1. The Histon and Impington Recreation Ground Sub-Committee request the Standards Committee to revoke the dispensation granted to Councillors Neil Davies (Histon Parish Council), Phil Gooden (Impington Parish Council) and Steve Unwin (Impington Parish Council).

Background

2. On 9 August 2006 the Standards Committee granted a dispensation to Councillors Davies, Gooden, Mark Lawton (Impington Parish Council) and Unwin, all members of the Histon and Impington Recreation Ground Sub-Committee, with regards to their direct involvement with the Histon Hornets Football Club.
3. The dispensation request was granted because the number of Sub-Committee members who were prohibited from participating in the business of the Sub-Committee exceeded 50% of those Members entitled to and required to so participate.
4. Mark Lawton has since resigned and the Recreation Ground Sub-Committee asks that the dispensations granted to the other councillors be revoked as the conditions under which it was granted no longer apply.
5. Under the *Relevant Authorities (Standards Committee)(Dispensations) Regulations 2002*, a standards committee can grant a dispensation to a member if:
 - (a) the transaction of business of the authority would, on each occasion on which the dispensation would apply, otherwise be impeded by, or as a result of, the mandatory provisions because:
 - (i) the numbers of members of the authority that are prohibited from participating in the business of the authority exceeds 50 per cent of those members that are entitled or required to participate; or
 - (ii) the authority is not able to comply with any duty which applies under section 15(4) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;
 - (b) the member has submitted to the standards committee a written request for a dispensation explaining why it is desirable.

Options

6. None.

Implications

7.

Financial	None
Legal	None

Staffing	None
Risk Management	None
Equal Opportunities	None

Consultations

8. None.

Effect on Annual Priorities and Corporate Objectives

9.	Affordable Homes	None
	Customer Service	None
	Northstowe and other growth areas	None
	Quality, Accessible Services	None
	Village Life	None
	Sustainability	None
	Partnership	None

Recommendation

10. To determine whether to revoke the dispensations granted to Parish Councillors Neil Davies, Phil Gooden and Steve Unwin.

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Relevant Authorities (Standards Committee)(Dispensations) Regulations 2002
 Original Dispensation Request 20 July 2006
 Standards Committee Minutes 9 August 2006
 Letter from Mrs LM Marsh, Secretary to the Histon and Impington Recreation Ground,
 16 October 2007

Contact Officer: Holly Adams – Democratic Services Officer
 Telephone: (01954) 713030