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PPP & CE



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

standards committee

Parish Council Member's Application for a Dispensation

To: Standards Committee, South Cambridgeshire District Council

Under Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2000, a member who has a prejudicial interest in a matter which is under consideration may not participate in the consideration of that matter by the Parish Council unless he / she has first obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee of South Cambridgeshire District Council. The powers to grant a dispensation are governed by the Relevant Authorities (Standards Committee) (Dispensation) Regulations 2002. You may apply for a dispensation by completing this form and sending it to the Monitoring Officer of South Cambridgeshire District Council. Please do so as soon as you are aware of the possible conflict, before South Cambridgeshire District Council Standards Committee is due to meet and before the matter is due to be considered by the Parish Council. Please complete the attached form as fully as possible as the request for dispensation must be written and explain why the dispensation is desirable.

Please note that for Standards Committee to conclude that it is appropriate to grant a dispensation it must have regard to the reason for the request, the content of the written application and to all the other circumstances of the case.

If you are granted a dispensation, please note that the Standards Committee must be notified if the circumstances under which it was granted change.

Your Name and Parish Council / Meeting:

Anthony George Allison, Chairman Hauxton Parish Council, de-facto Trustee of Hauxton Townsland Charity and elected Chair of that body.

What is the matter which is shortly to be considered and in respect of which you seek a dispensation?

Any matters relating to the governance of the Hauxton Townsland Charity and the administration of Hauxton Village Green.

Is this matter to be considered by the Parish Council as a whole or by a sub-committee? If the latter please provide the name of the sub-committee.

The whole Parish Council.

What is the nature of your prejudicial interest?

Dual roles as Chair of both bodies.

What is the date of the meeting at which this matter is to be considered?
Regular organised Parish Council meetings and The Annual parish assembly.

The grounds for dispensation is that the number of Members of the body that are prohibited from participating in the business of the authority exceeds 50% of those Members that are entitled or required to so participate. Please provide details confirming this:

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council are both trustees of the Townsland Trust, the other trustee is also a parish councillor at many regular Parish Council meetings this would be equal to or greater than the other members there present.

Do you seek a dispensation just for the one meeting or for a longer period? If longer, please state a period not exceeding four calendar years.

Three years

Please set out below the reasons why you consider the Standards Committee should grant this dispensation:

Historically the Townsland Trust, which has very little funds and no regular income other than interest (Circa £8.00/annum) from monies invested many years ago, is a charity that holds the Village Green in trust for the Hauxton Village. The day to day maintenance and management of the Village Green has always been funded and organised by the Parish Council who rely heavily on the knowledge and expertise of the Trustees regarding Village Green Matters, The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council are both trustees of the Townsland Trust, the other trustee is also a parish councillor therefore to exclude them from participation in these matters at Parish Council Meetings is both dangerous, counter-productive and unnecessary as there is no real conflict of interest.

In the unlikely event of non-trustee members of the Parish council being in conflict with the Trustees over some matter, the Trustees will withdraw. (This has not occurred for some eighty years).

AG Allison (signature)

Signed:

..... Date:

NVR 5th 2020