

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Civic Affairs Committee held on
Wednesday, 15 June 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Dr. Aidan Van de Weyer – Chair

Councillors:	Dr. Martin Cahn	Dr. Tumi Hawkins
	Mark Howell	Judith Rippeth
	Susan van de Ven	Dr. Aidan Van de Weyer
	Heather Williams	

Officers:	Patrick Adams	Senior Democratic Services Officer
	Rory McKenna	Monitoring Officer

Councillors Cllr Paul Bearpark and Cllr Bridget Smith were in attendance remotely.

1. Election of Chair

It was noted that neither the Chair nor the Vice Chair were present in the Chamber. Councillor Judith Rippeth nominated and Councillor Tumi Hawkins seconded Councillor Aidan Van de Weyer as Chair for the meeting. There being no other nominations Councillor Van de Weyer was elected as Chair by affirmation.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Henry Batchelor and Anna Bradnam. Councillors Judith Rippeth substituted for Councillor Henry Batchelor and Councillor Tumi Hawkins substituted for Councillor Anna Bradnam.

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mark Howell declared an interest in agenda item 5 in that it was possible that he knew the member of Cambourne Town Council who was the subject of a complaint mentioned in the report.

Councillors Judith Rippeth and Paul Bearpark both declared an interest in agenda item 5 as it was possible that they knew the members of Waterbeach Parish Council who were the subject of complaints mentioned in the report.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 December 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

5. Public Questions

The Committee had received one public speaking request ahead of the meeting from Mr. Daniel Fulton to make a statement but he did not attend the meeting.

6. Code of Conduct Update Report

The Monitoring Officer introduced this report which updated the Committee on complaints cases regarding alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct. He explained that the complainant who had alleged that two District Councillors (one now a former member) had breached the Code of Conduct at a Planning Committee meeting on 29 September 2021 had been contacted on 30 May for their view. The opinion of the Monitoring Officer and the Independent Person was that this matter was suitable for summary resolution. One of the Members under review had now retired and the other member had undergone Code of Conduct training last month. The Monitoring Officer now considered this matter to be closed.

The Monitoring Officer explained that following consultation with the Independent Person it had been agreed that neither the complaint about a Waterbeach Parish Councillor nor the complaints about Great Shelford Parish Councillors merited a formal investigation as there had not been a breach of the code. Complaints had been received about a Cambourne Town Councillor and three Waterbeach Parish Councillors and these investigations were ongoing.

The Chair thanked the Monitoring Officer for a thorough and detailed report. The Committee **noted** the report.

7. Date of the Next Meeting

Tuesday 13 September at 10 am.

The Meeting ended at 10.15 a.m.
