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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:

PAUL MARTIN

Croydon Parish Council

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

Any planning matters pertaining to the Parish

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.

Parish Council as a whole

What is the nature of your prejudicial interest?

There could be an occasion where so many councillors have to declare an interest that there will be insufficient councillors to form a quorum.

What is the date of the meeting at which this matter is to be considered?

Any meeting between May and the next Parish Council elections.

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:

There are only seven members of Croydon Parish Council and because of the size of the parish, there is always a strong possibility that some of the councillors may have a prejudicial interest in the item under discussion.

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.

Croydon Parish Council would ask that the dispensation be in place until the next Parish Council elections, when a new request will be made.

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

Planning matters are of great local importance and the views of Parish Councils are always considered by South Cambs Planning Department, although the Parish itself has no power to determine the outcome of any planning application. A dispensation for all the serving councillors would help with any situations where an interest may preclude their participation.

Signature

Signed:

Date:

19/05/10