

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

HELD: 26 APRIL 2007

Start: 4.30pm

Finish: 5.00pm

PRESENT

Independent Members: Mr J Cailles (Chairman)
Mr P Hanmer (Vice Chairman)
R Chester
R Merry

Councillors: Mrs Atherley
Dereli
Grant

Parish Councillors: D Kitson

Officers: Council Secretary and Solicitor
Senior Member Services Officer (CAJ)

28. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were proffered on behalf of Parish Councillor M Hammond. The Committee extended its best wishes for a speedy recover to Parish Councillor Hammond. An apology for absence was also noted for Independent Member Brian Molyneux.

29. ANNOUNCEMENT

The Committee recorded its thanks to Independent Member Brian Molyneux, who was retiring at the end of the municipal year, for his contribution to the work of the Committee.

30. URGENT BUSINESS, IF ANY, INTRODUCED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no items of urgent business.

31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

32. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 27 February 2007 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

33. NEW CODE OF CONDUCT - WEST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Consideration was given to the report of the Council Secretary and Solicitor as contained on pages 215 to 236 of the Book of Reports and pages 259 to 269 giving details of the revised Appendix 2. The report outlined the changes to the Model Code of

Conduct made on 2 April 2007 and explained the need for the Authority to adopt a new Code of Conduct in place of the existing Code.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Committee considered the details set out in the report before it and accepted the reasons contained in it, subject to any guidance issued by the Standards Board for England.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL: (A) That the Council adopt the Code as regards the conduct which is expected of members and co-opted members of the Council as set out in the revised Appendix 2, in place of the existing Code of Conduct from 16 May 2007.

(B) That the Code of Conduct be made available for public inspection, a notice be placed in the Advertiser, and the Standards Board be notified as required by the Local Government Act 2000.

(C) That the resolutions, as stated above, be subject to any guidance issued by the Standards Board.

34. NEW CODE OF CONDUCT - PARISH COUNCILS IN WEST LANCASHIRE

Consideration was given to the report of the Council Secretary and Solicitor as contained on pages 237 to 258 of the Book of Reports and pages 271 to 280 giving details of the revised Appendix 2. The report outlined the changes to the Model Code of Conduct made on 2 April 2007 and explained the need for the Parish Councils to adopt a new Code, which must contain the mandatory provisions set out in the Model Code of Conduct in place of the existing code.

In reaching the decision set out below, the Committee considered the details set out in the report before it and accepted the reasons contained in it, subject to any guidance issued by the Standards Board for England.

RESOLVED: (A) That the Parish Councils adopt the Code as regards the conduct which is expected of members and co-opted members of the Parish Council as set out in the revised Appendix 2, in place of their existing Code of Conduct as soon as possible – with or without paragraph 10(2) depending on whether or not the public are permitted by Standing Orders to attend meetings for the purpose of making representations, giving evidence or answering questions.

- (B) That the Code of Conduct be made available for public inspection, a notice be placed in the Advertiser or other appropriate newspaper, and the Standards Board be notified as required by the Local Government Act 2000.
- (C) That the resolutions, as stated above, be subject to any guidance issued by the Standards Board.

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Chairman