

Please ask for: Matt Challoner

Your Ref:

Extension No: 4588

My Ref: MC

E-Mail: Matthewchalloner@cannockchasedc.gov.uk

12 September 2007

Dear Member,

**PARISH COUNCILS STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE - HEARING
4.00PM ON THURSDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2007
DATTELN ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, CANNOCK**

You are invited to attend this meeting for consideration of the matters itemised in the following Agenda.

Yours sincerely,

S.G. Brown
Chief Executive

To:

Members of the Panel:

Mr. R. Betteridge – Independent Member
Mr. M. King – Independent Member
Mr. M. Elliott – Independent Member
Councillor Mrs. D.J. Bennett – District Council Member
Councillor A. Pearson – Parish/Town Council Member

Mr. T. Stokes – Former Member of Rugeley Town Council

Mr. B. Gill – Investigating Officer

AGENDA

PART 1

1. **Apologies**
2. **Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members**

To declare any personal or prejudicial interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct and any possible contraventions under Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Under the Code of Conduct, if you declare a personal interest, you may remain in the meeting, take part in the debate and vote. If you declare a personal and prejudicial interest, you must withdraw from the meeting and not take any part in the debate.

3. **Hearing Against Mr. T. Stokes, Former Member of Rugeley Town Council**

To hear the case against Mr. T. Stokes, a former Member of Rugeley Town Council.

Mr. B. Gill, as the Investigating Officer, will present the following allegations in relation to his report: -

- (a) That Mr. Stokes failed to treat others with respect contrary to the Code of Conduct when during a meeting in June 2003 Mr. Stokes attended the office of the Parish Clerk at an unarranged meeting. During the course of the meeting Mr. Stokes leaned over the Clerk's desk and pointed at her leaning into her and shouting at her.
- (b) That on 25 June, 2003 at a meeting of the Rugeley Rose Committee Mr. Stokes began getting aggressive towards Mrs. Campbell and started banging the table. Further, during the course of the meeting that Mr. Stokes challenged the accuracy of the minutes by questioning the honesty and integrity of the Clerk.
- (c) That during a meeting on 3 March, 2004 Mr. Stokes questioned the accuracy of minutes produced by the Clerk and during the course of the meeting that Mr. Stokes shouted at the Clerk and accused her of "doctoring things". This resulted in the Clerk being reduced to tears having to leave her post and the meeting had to be abandoned.

The Hearing will be conducted in accordance with the attached procedure (Enclosure 1).

The Following documents will be circulated prior to the Hearing:

- (i) The Investigating Officer's final report (Enclosure 2).
- (ii) The appendices to the Investigating Officer's final report (Enclosure 3).