



Town Council – Member of Rugeley Town Council and knows the individual who was the subject of the investigation

**2. Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2007 be approved as a correct record.

**3. Code of Conduct for Parish Councillors 2007**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer (Enclosure 4.1 – 4.4 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Following consideration of the report, the Sub-Committee requested that the Monitoring Officer write to all Parish/Town Council Clerks in order that they can advise their Members of the guidance issued by the Standards Board for England in relation to the Code.

Members also requested that the Parish/Town Council representatives be included in any correspondence between the Council and the Parish/Town Clerks in order that they can be made aware of matters of interest.

- (A) That the provisions of the amended Code of Conduct for Members (2007) as they apply to Parishes be noted
- (B) That representatives of the Parish Councils be requested to advise their respective Clerks and Members of the new changes in the Code and to encourage attendance at planned training sessions.
- (C) That the Monitoring Officer write to all Parish/Town Council Clerks in order that they can advise their Members of the guidance issued by the Standards Board for England in relation to the Code.
- (D) That the Parish/Town Council representatives be included in any future correspondence between the Council and the Parish/Town Clerks in order that they can be made aware of matters of interest.

**4. Local Determination of a Case Referred by the Standards Board for England for Local Investigation in Connection with Rugeley Town Council**

Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, Councillor Mrs. P. Williams left the meeting prior to consideration of this matter.

Consideration was given to the Report of the (Enclosure 5.1 – 5.4 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Monitoring Officer reported that despite the fact that the Councillor, who was the subject of the investigation, was no longer a Councillor, the Standards Board for England had advised that the matter needed to be dealt with by way of a hearing.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the case referred by the Standards Board for England for Local Investigation in connection with Rugeley Town Council be the subject of a hearing to be held on Thursday, 20 September 2007 at 4.00pm.
- (B) That the following Members be appointed to the Panel for the purpose of determining the case:
- Mr. R. Betteridge – Independent Member  
Mr. R. King – Independent Member  
Councillor Mrs. D.J. Bennett – District Council Member  
Councillor P.A. Fisher - Parish/Town Council Member  
Councillor A. Pearson – Parish/Town Council Member
- Mr. M. Elliott – Independent Member (reserved substitute)
- (C) That the Monitoring Officer be requested to arrange a training session for Members of the Panel in preparation for the hearing.

## 5. **Work Programme for 2007/08**

Consideration was given to the work programme of the Sub-Committee for 2007/08:

- Further training requirements for Members of the Sub Committee.
- Further training requirements, either general or on specific topics, for all Parish/Town Council Members.
- Developing local protocols for Parish/Town Councils to consider.
- Other matters which representatives may have been asked to raise by their Councils.

Members requested that an item be included in the work programme with regard to training for Members of the Parish/Town Council in relation to the planning process and associated legislation. Members also requested that the Code of Conduct Booklet, prepared by the previous Monitoring Officer be included.

RESOLVED:

That the Work Programme for 2007/08, as amended, be approved.

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CHAIRMAN