

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS PANEL
WEDNESDAY 8 JULY, 2015 AT 10:00 A.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Grice, Mrs. D.
Hardman, B.
Pearson, A.

Preece, J.
Sutherland, M.

1. Appointment of Chairman

Councillor J. Preece was appointed Chairman for the meeting.

2. Apologies

No apologies for absence were received.

3. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

No declarations of interest were made.

4. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 4, Part 1, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

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PART 2

5. Complaint

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Commissioning (Item 5.1 – 5.90 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Complainant was not in attendance to present his case.

The Chairman invited all those present to introduce themselves and confirm their understanding of the procedure for the Hearing.

The Officer representing the Council presented the Council's case by taking the Panel through the report relating to the complaint. Members were afforded the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer representing the Council.

As the Complainant was not in attendance to present his case to the Panel the Officer representing the Council advised that the Complainant's submission, together with photographs, was included at Appendix 21 and Appendix 22 of the report.

The Officer representing the Council was then given the opportunity to sum up his case.

The Panel then deliberated in private, accompanied by the Council's Legal Advisor and Secretary to the Panel.

At the conclusion of the deliberations all parties then returned to the meeting and the Chairman outlined the decision of the Panel as follows:-

RESOLVED:

That, having considered the report and documents attached to it, and taking into account the evidence from the parties and their representatives, the Panel decided that the complaint not be upheld.

Reasons for Decision

- Cannock Chase Council does not own the hedge and has never owned the hedge;
- Cannock Chase Council has no responsibility for maintaining the hedge;

- Members noted the Local Government Ombudsman's decision of September 2006 that stated "I do not see what further action the Council can take".

The meeting closed at 10.45 a.m.

CHAIRMAN