

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCILPARISH COUNCILS STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE16 AUGUST 2006UPDATES FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER**1. Representative from Hednesford Town Council**

Under the Terms of Reference, the Parish Council Representative on the Sub-Committee cannot be both a Parish/Town Councillor and a District Councillor. In May 2006, Councillor Mawle was elected to the District Council and therefore ceased to be eligible to represent Hednesford Town Council on the Sub-Committee.

Hednesford Town Council has nominated Mrs. C. Whysall to be its new representative on the Sub-Committee.

2. Complaints to the Standards Board for England

Number of complaints made in 2004-05

complaints	passed for investigation	no action required	hearing
47	44	32	12 *

* these twelve complaints were brought by a number of individuals against 2 Councillors

Number of complaints made in 2005-06

complaints	passed for investigation	no action required	hearing
1	1	not completed	not completed

Number of complaints made 1 April 2006 to 30 June 2006

complaints	passed for investigation	no action required	hearing
nil	nil	nil	nil

3. Update on timing and location of future meetings

At its meeting on 16 May, the Sub-Committee recommended that the Monitoring Officer enquire of each Parish/Town Council whether a change in the timing and location of future meetings would enable more Members to attend.

To date the response has been limited and it may be that further responses will be received before the meeting. Any further responses will be reported verbally at the meeting.

It has been suggested that changing the time of the meeting to 6.00 p.m. would be helpful but no preference has been expressed as to the venue.

4. Update on Training

At its meeting on 16 May, the Sub-Committee recommended that the Monitoring Officer make arrangements for training, using the Local Investigations and Hearings DVD issued by the Standards Board for England, to be given to Members of each Parish/Town Council.

The responses to date include :

- i. The Clerk of Hednesford Town Council has made contact with the Monitoring Officer suggesting that it would be better if the training did not take place at a Council meeting. She has agreed some potential dates with the Monitoring Officer and is contacting other Councils with a view to arranging combined training.
- ii. Following some initial discussions between the Clerk of Heath Hayes and Wimblebury Parish Council and the Monitoring Officer about possible dates for training, the Clerk suggested that the training DVD be forwarded to him when he will distribute it to each Member to view and will then collate any questions for submitting to the Monitoring Officer.

The DVD has been delivered to the Clerk who will give some feedback on whether Members of his Council found this a satisfactory way of undertaking training. The Sub-Committee's view as to whether they support this alternative method of training is requested.