

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS PANEL
TUESDAY, 12 JUNE, 2012 AT 10.00 A.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors

Grice, Mrs. D. (Chairman)

Cartwright, Mrs. S.M.	Dixon, D.I.
Davies, D.N.	Sutherland, M.

1. Appointment of Chairman

Councillor Mrs. D. Grice 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 interests 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 2 and 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

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PART 2

5. Homelessness Appeal

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Head of Housing (Enclosure 5.1 – 5.4 (plus attachments) of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Appellant was in attendance to present her case.

The Chairman invited all those present to introduce themselves and also outlined the procedure.

The Officer presented the Council's case by taking the Panel through the report. The Appellant and Members of the Panel were then afforded the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer.

The Appellant was then afforded the opportunity to present her case. The Officer and Members of the Panel were then afforded the opportunity to ask questions of the Appellant.

The Officer and the Appellant were then given the opportunity of summing up their cases.

The Panel then deliberated in private calling on only the Council's Legal Advisor and Senior Committee Officer for advice.

All parties returned to the meeting and the Chairman outlined the decision of the Panel as follows:-

RESOLVED:

That, having considered all the information submitted, the appeal be dismissed and the Officers' original decision be upheld on the basis that the Appellant had made herself intentionally homeless.

Reasons for Decision

The Panel gave careful consideration to the representations made by all parties and due regard was also given to the relevant provisions contained within the Housing Act 1996 and the Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities 2006.

The Panel was of the view that the landlord was justified in taking possession proceedings due to the noise nuisance and the number of complaints received, and that the Appellant had not taken adequate steps to abate the nuisance.

Therefore, the Panel supported the intentionally homeless decision made by the Housing Options Team. However, the Panel hoped that the Appellant would continue to receive advice and assistance from Housing Options in order to obtain suitable accommodation with another landlord.

The meeting finished at 10.55am.

CHAIRMAN