

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Standards Committee held in the Coltman VC Room, Town Hall on Monday 3rd June 2024 at 6.30pm.

Present:

Councillors L. Walker (Chairman), L Beech, D F Fletcher, Mrs V J Gould and M. Shrive.

Officers Present:

John Teasdale (Head of Legal and Regulatory Services and Monitoring Officer) and Andrea Davies (Principal Democratic Services Officer)

Also Present:

Graham Goodall (Independent Person) and Sarah Riches (Independent Person)

An apology for absence was received from: Councillor R Lock

In accordance with rule 7.3, Councillor R Lock had appointed Councillor Mrs V J Gould as his substitute for this meeting.

23/24 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

24/24 **PUBLIC MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the Public Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4th March 2024 be approved by the Committee and signed as a correct record.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows.

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor L. Walker Councillor M. Shrive		Councillor Mrs V J Gould Councillor L Beech Councillor D F Fletcher

25/24 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business submitted to the meeting pursuant to Rule 12.

26/24 **MONITORING OFFICER'S UPDATE REPORT**

The Monitoring Officer informed Members that with regards to Parish Council matters there had been several complaints received in respect of Mayfield Parish Council, however those complaints had been withdrawn due to the incorrect paperwork being submitted. A complaint involving Rocester Parish Council, alleging non-declaration of interest and site ownership in respect of a planning matter was currently being investigated by the Deputy Monitoring Officer Mrs P James.

One complaint in respect of a Borough Councillor on the use of a mobile phone during a meeting, had been investigated by the Deputy Monitoring Officer, Glen McCusker and had concluded that there had been no breach of the Code of Conduct.

Two further complaints which were live would be discussed in the private part of the meeting.

The Committee noted that as part of the annual update to declarations of interests, 9 Borough Councillors had currently returned their updated forms and 4 Parish Councils had returned updated forms. Reminders would be sent to those who had not yet submitted updates.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED.

27/24 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting during discussion of the following items as it would likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets before each item number on the Agenda

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows.

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor L. Walker Councillor L Beech Councillor D F Fletcher Councillor Mrs V J Gould Councillor M. Shrive		

Chairman