

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

2 November 2010

Present: Councillors Smitten and M Stanley, Parish and Town Councillors Hopkins and Shaw, Mr S Orton and Mr R Prosser.

An apology for absence was received from Mrs E Shilton.

Councillors B Moss and Wykes were also in attendance.

1 Election of a Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor M Stanley, seconded by Mr R Prosser and

Resolved:

That Mr Stanley Orton be elected Chairman of the Standards Committee for the period up to the annual meeting of the Council in May 2011.

2 Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests

Any personal interests arising from the membership of Warwickshire County Council of Councillor Shaw, and membership of the various Town/Parish Councils of Councillors Hopkins (Mancetter), Shaw (Atherstone), Smitten (Polesworth) and M Stanley (Polesworth) were deemed to be declared at the meeting.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9 December 2008, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 Protocol for Councillor/Employee Relations

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council presented the draft Councillor/Employee protocol for consideration and invited comments.

Recommendation to Executive Board:

- a **That the draft Protocol for Councillor/Employee Relations be approved, subject to the following insertions;**

- (i). that the Chief Executive may hold meetings of all/any Group Leaders, formally or on an unattributable basis
- (ii). that references to political groups is to formally constituted political groups; and

Resolved:

- b That a copy of the Member/Officer Protocol document be sent to Warwickshire Association of Local Councils with a suggestion that it could be used as a basis for a similar protocol for relationships between parish councillors and their clerks.**

5 Attendance at Meetings

The Committee was asked to consider the attendance of Members at meetings of the Boards, Committees, and Area Forums for the 2009/10 municipal year.

Resolved:

That the attendance of Members at meetings of the Boards, Committees and Area Forums for 2009/10 municipal year, be noted.

6 Latest Position of Government Reform of the Standards Regime

The Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council informed the meeting that the position of the Government's reform of the Standards regime was still unclear and that the outcome of the Localism Bill would not be known until the end of the month or early December.

Resolved:

That the Assistant Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council update Members when the Bill is published.

Mr S Orton
Chairman