

AD HOC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

PARKSIDE, STATION APPROACH, BURTON STREET, MELTON MOWBRAY

19 AUGUST 2013

PRESENT

Councillors M.C.R. Graham MBE (Chairman)
V. Manderson, M.R. Sheldon, N. Slater

Monitoring Officer
Solicitor to the Council
Senior Democracy Officer
Admin Assistant

G.22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

G.23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

G.24. CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINT GOV 09

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) that enabled the Committee to consider a complaint received regarding the conduct of a Council Member and to consider what action should be taken.

The Monitoring Officer explained that in line with the Complaints process the meeting is to determine what the next stage of the complaint should be from the 3 options in the report being

- No Action
- Other Action such as training, support, mediation
- Refer for Investigation

The content of the report was outlined fully and the view of the independent person referred to.

The Chairman explained Members were to consider the content of the report and appendices. He asked for Members views on the case. Councillor Manderson stated that there appears to have been strong feelings at the meeting in question and it is often hard to chair this type of meeting. However the account of the meeting by Councillor Simpson at Appendix G shows it was

well chaired. She had taken into account the Independent Person's view and she proposed no action be taken.

Councillor Sheldon said that all new Councillors should receive adequate training in order to deal with such events as speaking or chairing a public meeting. It was felt there should be a full process of training for the role as a Councillor. The Chair noted his comments.

Councillor Manderson proposed no action and this was seconded by Councillor Slater. Following a vote, there were 3 Councillors in favour and 1 against.

RESOLVED that no action be taken.

The Chair stated that he understood there was some public interest in the following complaint, Gov 08. The Monitoring Officer had recommended it be heard in private session due to individuals being or potentially being identified in line with legislation. The Chair said the documents included individuals' views that had not been fully verified and if the papers were allowed to be considered in open session, they would be added to the website and be open for anyone to view. There was a discussion about whether some of the case could be held in private and the papers were considered on this basis. Following consideration of papers that could be discussed in open and those where it would not be appropriate it was agreed by Members that it was not practical to consider the complaint part in exempt and part in public therefore the Chair proposed the matter be dealt with in exempt session, which was seconded by Councillor Manderson and Members were in agreement.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the Public be excluded during the consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (Access to Information: Exempt Information) under Paragraphs 1 and 2.

G.25. CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINT GOV 08

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) which enabled the Committee to consider a complaint received regarding the conduct of a Council Member and to consider what action should be taken.

The Meeting resumed open session.

RESOLVED that the complaint be referred for an investigation.

The meeting which commenced at 5.30 p.m., closed at 5.55 p.m.

Chairman