

AD HOC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

PARKSIDE, STATION APPROACH, BURTON STREET, MELTON MOWBRAY

21 MAY 2013

PRESENT

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

As Substitute

Councillor M. Twitney for Councillor A. Freer-Jones

Monitoring Officer
Solicitor to the Council
Senior Democracy Officer
Admin Assistant

G.1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received for this meeting.

G.2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

G.3. CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINT GOV 05

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report in consideration of Complaint Gov 05 (copies of which had previously been circulated to Members) which enabled the Committee to consider the complaint received regarding the conduct of a Council Member and to consider what action should be taken.

Two additional papers were circulated at the meeting supporting the complaint:-

- Letter addressed to Development Control, Melton Borough Council from Pure Renewable Energy dated 28 September 2012.
- Melton Borough Council website Screenshot of Planning Application Search (12/00723/EIA).

The Committee considered the complaint in accordance with the Council's Complaints Process to determine which one of the following three actions should be taken:-

- No action be taken;
- The complaint be referred for other action such as training, support, mediation;
- The complaint be referred for Investigation

The Monitoring Officer guided Members through the report and the appendices specifically drawing their attention to the report and Appendix F which set out the Head of Regulatory Services' response to the Parish Council's complaint and concerns. Members confirmed that they had read the views of the Independent Person (Appendix H), prior to the meeting and it was noted that his view indicated that there had not been a breach of the code in this case.

The Solicitor to the Council pointed out that the Committee were not considering whether there had been a breach of the Members' Code of Conduct by the Subject Member, they were to decide on the next stage of the process i.e. no action, other action or refer for investigation.

Councillor Moulding proposed that the complaint be referred for investigation as he felt there were questions to answer from a public perspective as it was alleged the Member had failed to disclose an interest that related to their public duties. He considered training would not be appropriate as this was an experienced Councillor. The proposal was not seconded.

Taking into account the information provided including the Independent Person's opinion Councillor Graham considered there was no case to answer and moved that no action be taken and Councillor Manderson seconded. On being put to the vote, 4 were in favour and 1 against therefore the motion was carried.

RESOLVED that:- No action be taken.

The meeting which commenced at 10.00 a.m., closed at 10.27 a.m.

Chairman