

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Wednesday 20 July 2005 at 6.00 p.m.

at the Council House, Walsall

Present

Mr. L. Bates
Councillor Bentley
Dr. K. Biscomb
Councillor Khan
Mr. R. Meller
Councillor O'Hare
Mrs. S.F. Parsons
Mr. R. Taylor
Councillor Wilkes

166/05 Appointment of Chairman 2005/2006

Resolved

That Mr. R. Meller be appointed Chairman of the Standards Committee for the municipal year 2005/2006.

Mr. R. Meller in the Chair.

167/05 Appointment of Vice-Chairman 2005/2006

Resolved

That Mr. L. Bates be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Standards Committee for the municipal year 2005/2006.

168/05 Apology

An apology for non-attendance was submitted on behalf of Miss K. McLeod.

The Committee noted that Councillor Wilkes was substituting due to the illness of Councillor Underhill.

169/05 **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meetings held on 20 April, 6 June adjourned to 10 June, 2005, copies having been circulated previously to each Member of the Committee, be approved and signed by the Chairman as correct records.

Mr. L. Bates expressed his thanks to the Assistant Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer for his contribution at the special meeting of the Committee in June, 2005 which considered the Review of the Members Code of Conduct.

170/05 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest submitted for this meeting.

171/05 **Appointment of independent members to Standards Committee**

The report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Constitutional Services was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Committee note the appointment by Council of Dr. Kay Biscomb and Ms. Kate McLeod as independent members on the Standards Committee for three years until the end of the Municipal Year 2007/2008.

172/05 **Members Code of Conduct training event – 27 September 2005**

The Committee was advised that the purpose of the training session was to provide further information and training for elected, independent and co-opted members on the recent developments relating to the Members Code of Conduct.

Resolved

That the information relating to the training event arranged for 27 September, 2005 in respect of the Members Code of Conduct be noted.

173/05 **Standards Board for England – roadshow 2005**

The report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Constitutional Services was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted;
- (2) That a report be submitted to a future meeting on the possible introduction of a system which could enable the Committee to be advised of cases involving Walsall Councillors who are referred to the Standards Board for England whilst maintaining the appropriate degree of confidentiality.

174/05 **Timetable of meetings 2005/2006**

The report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Constitutional Services was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted;
- (2) The Committee also noted that if it was necessary to agree dates for special meetings or training events these would be discussed with the Chairman of the Committee and would be based on dates which are convenient for a majority of elected/independent members.

The meeting terminated at 6.40 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: