

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**  
**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

**PRESENT** – *Councillors F. Oldfield, J Hirst, D. Walsh, and P.Browne.*

**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS** – *Councillor Malowana-Murphy and Councillor*

**INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE** – *Mr L Loft (Chair), , Mr B Kiernan, Mrs V Miles and Mrs V Webb*

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE-** *Asad Laher (Legal Services) and Philip Llewellyn, Paul Conlon, (Democratic Services).*

**RESOLUTIONS**

**1 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received from Mrs Sue Entwistle. *Ms Harpreet Kaur-Kalkat Mr Zahid Aziz and Mr Steve Simpson.*

**2 Minutes of the Meeting of this Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2011**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record subject to the correction of the date of the previous meeting being corrected to read October 2010.

**3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4 The Localism Act 2011 and the Standards Regime.**

The Committee received presentation on the Localism Act 2011 and the Standards Regime. The Localism Bill had received Royal assent on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2011 and

**RESOLVED –**

1. That dispensation be granted for those Members of the Council listed at Appendix A under the Standards Committee (Further Provisions) (England) Regulations 2009;

2. That dispensation be granted for a period of one calendar month (2<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 - 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011) to the six Members as detailed in the report at appendix A as follows:

Councillor Maureen Bateson  
Councillor Derek Hardman  
Councillor Dave Harling  
Councillor Michael Lee  
Councillor Pat McFall  
Councillor Salim Mulla

## **24 Case Review**

Members were advised of the Online Case Review Introduction that had been published on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2010 on the Standards for England website, and which covered cases up to the end of October 2010.

This was the third paragraph-by-paragraph analysis of the Code of Conduct and was intended primarily as a research tool for monitoring officers and Standards Committees. The review had been developed to assist in understanding how tribunals and higher courts had interpreted the Code of Conduct. It was envisaged as a complement to the guidance produced by Standards for England and it was intended to keep the Case Review under constant review to reflect changes.

Members were advised on how to use the Case Review and encouraged to do so. Link to Online Case Review as follows:

<http://www.standardsforengland.gov.uk/CaseinformationReporting/OnlineCaseReview2010/>

## **25 Localism Bill and Standards for England**

Updated information that had been published by the Department for Communities and Local Government, in relation to the Abolition of the Standards Board regime, was submitted to the Committee.

Details relating to the current Standards Board regime, proposed transitional measures and the conduct regime in the post-Standards Board period were outlined in the information.

A discussion took place around the issue in which concerns were raised about the abolition of the Standards Committee at Blackburn with Darwen.

**RESOLVED** – That the Chair of the Standards Committee writes to the Chief Executive at Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, expressing the

concerns of the Committee in relation to the abolition of Standards and requests information on the future options for Standards at Blackburn with Darwen.

**26 Date of Next Meeting**

That the meeting of the Committee scheduled for 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 be cancelled and that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

Signed.....

Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were signed

Date.....