

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE HELD IN
THE MEETING ROOM B -
CHARRINGTONS HOUSE, BISHOP'S
STORTFORD ON THURSDAY 6 MARCH
2014, AT 3.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor S Rutland-Barsby (Chairman)
Councillors K Crofton and M Wood

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Simon Drinkwater	- Monitoring Officer
Jeff Hughes	- Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Philip Copland	- Independent Person
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7 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – the Councillor S Rutland-Barsby be elected Chairman for this meeting.

8 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the meeting of the Standards Sub-Committee held on 26 June 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

9 COMPLAINT IN RESPECT HUNSDON PARISH
COUNCILLOR D GIBBS - INVESTIGATION REPORT

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report on a complaint alleging that Hunsdon Parish Councillor D Gibbs had breached Hunsdon Parish Council's Councillors Code of Conduct.

The complaint was the subject of an investigation by an independent Investigating Officer appointed by the Monitoring Officer.

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Investigating Officer’s findings on the complaint in accordance with its approved procedure.

The Standards Sub-Committee, in consultation with the Independent Person, determined that, in relation to all the circumstances of the case, there was no evidence of any failure by Parish Councillor Gibbs to comply with the Code of Conduct and therefore, there was no case to answer.

The Sub-Committee noted that the Parish Council had not adopted a Code of Conduct required under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011. The Monitoring Officer undertook to remind the Parish Council of its statutory responsibility to adopt such a code.

The Monitoring Officer also undertook to convey to the Parish Council the Sub-Committee’s view that the decision now taken on the complaint should be seen as a starting point for a process of community reconciliation.

RESOLVED – that in relation to all the circumstances of the case, there was no evidence of any failure by Hunsdon Parish Councillor D Gibbs to comply with that Authority’s Code of Conduct and therefore, there was no case to answer.

The meeting closed at 3.25 pm

Chairman
Date