

Minutes of the meeting of the STANDARDS COMMITTEE held on TUESDAY  
13 DECEMBER 2016 at 6.03 pm.

**Present:** Councillor Miles (Chair)  
Councillors Alexander (Vice-Chair), D Hopkins, McDonald,  
McKenzie, McPake, Small and Webb (Vice-Chair).

Parish Councillor Ballantyne

**Officers:** S Bridglalsingh (Monitoring Officer/Acting Service Director ([Legal  
and Democratic Services]) and T Milner (Committee Manager).

**Apologies:** Councillors Patey-Smith and Wallis  
Parish Councillor Walker

**ST09 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Standards Committee held  
on 14 June 2016 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct  
record, subject to noting that the scheduled meeting of 13  
September 2016 (Minute Ref ST08 refers) was subsequently  
cancelled.

**ST10 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None declared.

**ST11 PERIOD REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

The Committee considered the Monitoring Officer's Periodic report in  
respect of complaints and investigations covered during the period  
from 1 June 2016 to 1 November 2016.

The Committee heard that 3 complaints concerning Milton Keynes  
Councillors had been received within the period 1 June 2016 to  
1 November 2016, with one complaint referred for consideration by  
the Standards Sub-Committee at its meeting on 2 December 2016.  
The outcome of the complaint had been referred for further  
investigation.

The Committee heard that 1 complaint in respect of a Parish  
Councillor was rejected by the Monitoring Officer, following  
consultation with an Independent Person.

The Monitoring Officer reassured the Committee that prior to  
determination of any complaint received by the Council in respect of  
Councillors and Parish Councillors Code of Conduct, and Standards  
issues were always looked at initially by the Monitoring Officer in  
consultation with an Independent Person.

RESOLVED -

That the report be noted.

**ST12**

**PARISH COUNCILLOR RECRUITMENT**

The Committee considered a report in respect of Parish Councillor Recruitment.

The Committee heard from the Monitoring Officer that the Parish Councillor Recruitment exercise for selecting up to 4 co-opted Parish Councillors should be in place for commencement from 2 May 2017. A draft letter and Recruitment Pack had been prepared, with the view to emailing the information out to all Parish Clerks on 14 December 2016.

The Committee also heard that as part of the Recruitment process, a short-listed panel of Committee members on a 1:1:1 basis would be required, with the addition of an Independent Person. The proposed timeline for the co-opted Parish Councillors was as follows:

- (a) the letter and Recruitment Package be emailed out on 14 December 2016;
- (b) all application letters to be received no later than 23 January 2017;
- (c) the Panel meet early February 2017 to discuss the short listing for co-opted posts (up-to 4);
- (d) interviews take place at the end of February 2017; and
- (e) decisions should be taken at the next Standards Committee (Parish Councillor Recruitment - part taken as Exempt Papers [CV/Responses from Parish Councillors]).

RESOLVED -

- 1. That Councillors Alexander, D Hopkins and Miles be appointed to the interview panel on a 1-1-1 basis and the Monitoring Officer be authorised to engage one Independent Person to sit on the recruitment panel in an advisory capacity.
- 2. That the letter to parishes and recruitment pack be circulated to the Town and Parish Clerks for disseminating to parish councillors.

**ST13**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting of the Standards Committee on 14 March 2017 at 6.00pm be re-scheduled to an alternative date.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 6.23 PM