

## **Rutland** County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP Telephone 01572 722577 Email: governance@rutland.gov.uk

Minutes of the **MEETING of the CONDUCT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham on Tuesday, 7th December, 2021 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor O Hemsley (Chair) Councillor N Begy

Councillor A Brown Councillor J Burrows
Councillor S Harvey Councillor S Webb

OFFICERS Sarah Khawaja Principal Solicitor
PRESENT: Tom Delaney Governance Officer

IN Gordon Grimes Independent Person

ATTENDANCE:

#### 1 APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence were received.

## 2 MINUTES

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2020.

## **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2020 be **APPROVED**.

## 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 4 PETITIONS, DEPUTATION AND QUESTIONS

There were no petitions, deputations and questions.

#### 5 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

There were no questions from Members.

#### 6 NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

#### 7 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

It was moved by Councillor O Hemsley that Councillor A Brown be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Conduct Committee for the 2021-22 municipal year, this was seconded. There were no further nominations and upon being put to the vote, the motion was unanimously agreed.

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor A Brown be **APPOINTED** as Vice Chair of the Conduct Committee for the remainder of the 2021-22 municipal year.

## 8 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Councillor O Hemsley moved from the Chair that the meeting exclude the press and public as consideration of the following items was likely to involve discussion of exempt information relating to the identities of the complainants and subject Councillors.

This was seconded and upon being put to the vote the motion was unanimously carried.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as the following items of businesses would involve discussion of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 – Information relating to any individual.

# 9 ALLEGATION OF BREACH OF CODE OF CONDUCT - UPPINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Report No. 170/2021 was received from the Monitoring Officer, the Principal Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer, Sarah Khawaja, presented the report which presented the findings of an investigation into allegations of a breach of Uppingham Town Council's Code of Conduct by an Uppingham Town Councillor.

In line with the Council's Arrangements for dealing with complaints, the Committee was advised by Gordon Grimes, the Independent Person, and received representations from the subject Councillor during the hearing.

#### **RESOLVED**

- 1) That the subject Councillor breached Uppingham Town Council's Code of Conduct in respect of one of the allegations made.
- 2) That the subject Councillor be issued with a formal letter and required to attend appropriate training arranged by the Monitoring Officer.

#### 10 ALLEGATION OF BREACH OF CODE OF CONDUCT - OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Report No. 171/2021 was received from the Monitoring Officer, the Principal Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer, Sarah Khawaja, presented the report which set out the details of a complaint against an Oakham Town Councillor and requested the Committee to consider what, if any, further steps should be taken in relation to the complaint.

In line with the Council's arrangements for dealing with complaints, the Committee was advised by the Independent Person, Gordon Grimes.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the allegations warranted a full report, and the Committee requested the Monitoring Officer to prepare such a report, including further investigations to be carried out if required.

#### 11 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business for consideration.

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The Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

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