

Medway Council
Meeting of Councillor Conduct Committee
Wednesday, 9 January 2019
6.00pm to 7.15pm

Record of the meeting

Subject to approval as an accurate record at the next meeting of this committee

- Present:** Councillors: Shaw and Wildey
- Substitutes:** Councillors:
Griffiths (Substitute for Godwin)
Gulvin (Substitute for Mrs Diane Chambers)
Mrs Josie Iles (Substitute for Kemp)
Steve Iles (Substitute for Wicks)
- In Attendance:** Perry Holmes, Chief Legal Officer/Monitoring Officer
Teri Reynolds, Democratic Services Officer

679 Election of Chairman

Councillor Wildey was elected as Chairman for the meeting.

680 Apologies for absence

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors Carr, Mrs Chambers, Godwin, Kemp and Wicks.

681 Record of meeting

The record of the meeting was agreed and signed by the Chairman as correct, subject to the word 'beached' being replaced with the word 'breached' within the decision of minute number 622.

682 Urgent matters by reason of special circumstances

There were none.

683 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests

Disclosable pecuniary interests

There were none.

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Other significant interests (OSIs)

There were none.

Other interests

There were none.

684 Exclusion of the press and public

The Committee considered whether or not to exclude the press and public for consideration of item 6 (CCC/2018/007). The Committee noted that item 6 (CCC/2018/007) contained exempt information falling within Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as specified in agenda item 6.

However, the committee noted that the complaint related to the outcome of sanctions applied to a Councillor by the Councillor Conduct Committee, the detail of which was already in the public domain. The Committee therefore decided not to exclude the press and public for the discussion on this item.

685 Screening of Complaint CCC/2018/007

Discussion:

The Committee considered a new complaint (CCC/2018/007) relating to the conduct of a Councillor who had been required to provide an apology as an outcome of the investigation of an earlier complaint (CCC/2018/001). The Committee considered the new complaint in line with the Council's screening process and concluded that, on the face of it, the Councillor who was the subject of the complaint (the subject member) was acting in his capacity as a Councillor and that his conduct could potentially represent a breach of Section 2.1 (i) of the Member Code of Conduct. The Committee also concluded that the complaint was not capable of being resolved by an investigation and that no further action should be taken in this regard.

Decision:

The Committee agreed to review the procedures for dealing with complaints about Councillor conduct in the new Municipal Year with a view to the inclusion of provisions requiring timely and adequate implementation of any sanctions or actions required by the Committee after consideration of a complaint and to convey its concerns with reference to CCC/2018/007 to the subject member by letter with a copy to the complainant and other Members of the Council for information.

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Chairman

Date:

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