

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the REFERRALS (ASSESSMENT) SUB COMMITTEE held in Room D5, Pathfinder House, St. Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 3TN on Tuesday, 12 January 2010.

PRESENT: Councillor Mr M Lynch – Chairman.
Councillor A Hansard, and Mr G Watkins.

108. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 1st December 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

109. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor A Hansard declared a personal interest in Minute No. 112 given that he and the Councillor alleged to have breached the Code were Members of the same political group on the District Council.

110. GUIDANCE TO ASSIST ASSESSMENT OF CASE

The Guidance produced by Standards for England and collated by the Monitoring Officer to assist the Sub-Committee in their assessment of the case submitted was received and noted.

111. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that the public be excluded from the meeting because the business to be transacted contains exempt information under paragraph 7 (c) relating to the deliberations of a Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee established under the provisions of Part 3 of the Local Government Act 2000.

112. PRE-ASSESSMENT REPORT AND ENQUIRIES - CASE NO. 25

Members considered the following documents collated by the Monitoring Officer (copies of which are appended in the Minute Book) to assist the Sub-Committee in their deliberations in respect of a complaint received against a Councillor serving on Huntingdonshire District Council:-

- (a) Letter received from Mr J R Marshall, complainant;
- (b) Agenda for meeting with local residents - 9th December 2009;
- (c) e-mails dated 6th November and 30th December 2009;
- (d) registration of interests form - Councillor K J Churchill.

An e-mail from Mr D Smith, Community Manager to which was attached the agenda and notes of a meeting with residents on 2nd September, and the notes of meetings held on 4th November and 9th December 2009 were circulated at the meeting. The Chairman allowed time for Members to familiarise themselves with the contents before proceeding.

113. INITIAL ASSESSMENT - CASE NO. 25

The Sub-Committee considered the allegation made in the case of Councillor K J Churchill of Huntingdonshire District Council seeking the advice of the Monitoring Officer as necessary. Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the allegation made against Councillor K J Churchill that he had failed to comply with paragraphs 3 (1), 3 (2) (b) and 5 of Huntingdonshire District Council's Code of Conduct be not referred for investigation and that no further action be taken in the case for the reasons set out in the "Decision Notice: No Further Action" appended to these Minutes.

Chairman