

**PARISH COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT
(Report by the Executive Director of Central Services
and Monitoring Officer)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In accordance with the procedure adopted by the Standards Board for England for the investigation of allegations, the Monitoring Officer has been notified of the Board's decision in respect of an allegation that a Member of Catworth Parish Council had failed to comply with the Parish Council's Code of Conduct.

2. DETAILS OF CASE


- 2.1 It had been alleged that a Parish Councillor serving on Catworth Parish Council had failed to declare an interest in a planning application upon which she subsequently addressed the District Council's Development Control Panel. The Parish Councillor owned property opposite land that was the subject of the planning application. The Parish Councillor concerned chose to draw the inadvertent breach of the Code of Conduct to the attention of the Standards Board.
- 2.2 On 29th July 2003, the Standards Board for England considered the allegation and decided not to refer the case to an Ethical Standards Officer for investigation.
- 2.3 The Board concluded that the matter was not sufficiently serious to warrant a referral for investigation. In their opinion, the Parish Councillor was reporting the position of the Parish Council as a whole and not her personal views on the application to the Development Control Panel. Therefore, the Board decided not to take any further action in relation to the case.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The Committee is invited to note that the Standards Board for England has agreed not to take any further action in relation to a breach of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct by a Councillor serving on Catworth Parish Council.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Letter received from the Standards Board for England dated 29th July 2003.

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