

Received
26th May 05.

2 Lancaster Close
Old Hurst
Huntingdon
PE28 3BB

Your ref: CenS/CD/EC/POL/46/1

25 May 2005

Dear Ms Deller

**Old Hurst Parish Council's Code of Conduct
Alleged Breach**

Thank you for your letter dated 11 May 2005 and the draft report. My comments on the draft report are as follows.

Voting

The original allegation as set out in the Standard Board's letter dated 25 January 2005 included the words "that.....Councillor Bull....[discussed] the allegation and voted on it". The reference to voting is omitted from the allegation as set out in the report, although I note that later the report specifically mentions that no vote took place at the meeting of 6 January 2005, nor at any other meeting where either Mrs Bussetil or I were present, regarding the planning application for Marsh Farm. This positively disproves one part of the original allegation and I would be grateful if this point could be made explicitly.

Assuming that the allegation about voting still stands, I suggest the words "and voted on that matter" are inserted in the allegation as set out in the report. This reflects the wording in the "Notification" I received from the Standards Board in the letter dated 25 January 2005. In addition, I think the report needs to conclude on that part of the allegation, and I suggest that words such as "which disposes of one part of the allegation" are added to the end of the fourth paragraph under the heading "Relevant Information". Reference to this "disposal" could also be made in the fifth paragraph under "Draft Findings of Fact".

If, however, the allegation about voting has been withdrawn, I would expect the report to say so very clearly.

New allegation

There appears to be an entirely new allegation made against me, which is set out in the first paragraph of the summary of the report. It states that I "...had fettered [my] discretion by formally objecting...".

I do not understand the nature of this allegation. Is it one where I am supposed to have breached some procedural rules? If so, then I need to be given the opportunity of formally rebutting the charge. If it is not such an allegation then why is it in the draft report? As the report will be a public document I feel that the retention of this allegation is potentially very damaging to me. If it is to stay in the final report, then there must be reference to how it is to be investigated and concluded.

I suggest that the most appropriate method of dealing with this allegation is to delete it from the final report.

Correction

In the second paragraph of the final page I am described as Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, but in fact I am the Secretary. Mr Lapwood holds the office of Chairman.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Graham Bull". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G'.

G J Bull

Ms C Deller
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