

<b>Case No.</b>	<b>Date of Enquiry</b>	<b>District/Town/Parish Council</b>	<b>Nature of Enquiry (Brief Details)</b>	<b>Advice Given (Brief Details)</b>	<b>Code of Conduct Reference (Para No.)</b>
33.	8.09.08	Hemingford Abbots Parish	Enquiry from Councillor regarding the implications of an offer by the Parish Council of grant assistance to the Village Hall Management Committee linked to a planning application for use of land as a car park.	Most of the queries raised by the Council were unrelated to Code of Conduct issues. However, it was pointed out that should some of the Councillors/or their relatives or close associates be involved in the Village Hall Management Committee and given the issue involved the award of grant, it was suggested that the Councillors in this position would have a prejudicial as well as a personal interest and that they should leave the room while the debate takes place. (RR) Subsequent advice given on application for dispensation which resulted in the calling of Special Standards Committee on 20.11.08 (CD)	8, 9, 10 and 12
34.	09.09.08	St Neots Town	Enquiry from Clerk regarding the application of paragraph 12(2) of the Code where appropriate.	Advice given that in circumstances where an authority has adopted paragraph 12(2) and has public speaking at meetings, a Member having declared a prejudicial interest can address a meeting but having done so must then remove themselves from the room regardless of whether they are the Chairman/Leader, etc. (CD)	10 and 12(2)

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35.	01.10.08	St Neots Town	Enquiry from Deputy Clerk as to whether a Member of the Town Council who has an undefined relationship with a group calling itself JPG(?) which is campaigning for a cinema in St Neots can make a presentation to a Town Council meeting on the subject.	The nature of JPG was not known, nor was the Councillor's relationship with that group. However it appeared from the information provided that this falls into the category in paragraph 8.1(a) of the Model Code of a body formed to influence public opinion (i.e. the provision of a cinema in St Neots). The precise structure of the group and the Councillor's association with it was not known but he was understood to be actively engaged with it. My advice was that, on the superficial evidence available, it appeared that this was an interest that should be registered by the councillor. (The Deputy Clerk undertook to check) and that he had a personal interest that he should declare if the subject of the cinema was discussed at a Council meeting. On the information available, it was my opinion that the interest was also likely to be so significant that it amounted to a prejudicial interest. The councillor should therefore declare the interest and leave the room if the cinema was being discussed. I	8, 9, 10, 12

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				pointed out the effect of paragraph 12.2 which the Clerk undertook to check but it was thought unlikely that the Town Council would have made provision in its Standing Orders for a member of the public to speak on a main Council agenda item. (RR)	
36.	07.10.08	Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish	Enquiry from Clerk as to the current interests of a Councillor who previously had declared a prejudicial interest in a planning application for floodlighting at a tennis club. The Parish Council was about to discuss complaints about the floodlighting – is the prejudicial interest still applicable?	Advice given depended on the circumstances of the Councillor. If he/she was not a member of the tennis club – no personal or prejudicial interest arises. If he/she is a member. It would depend on whether any financial interest rises ie could the club be required by the Parish Council to spend money to rectify the floodlighting problem. Clerk directed towards page 22 of the Standards Board Guide “The Code of Conduct” which is particularly clear on prejudicial interests. (CD/CM)	10
37.	Oct 08	Huntingdon Town	Enquiry from Town Clerk regarding position of 5 Councillors who are trustees to the Commemoration Hall out of a total membership of 9 on a Town Council Committee.	Advice given that the circumstances described and the interests that might need to be declared could generate a request to the Standards Committee as an application for dispensation. (CD)	8, 9 and 10

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38.	Nov 08	Houghton and Wyton Parish	Enquiry as to the nature of interests which should be declared by a Parish Councillor. The business under consideration by the Parish Council involved the remuneration of employees, one of whom was a family member of a parish councillor.	Advice given that interest described was prejudicial and would require the Member concerned to leave the room when the business was being transacted. (CD)	9, 10, 12