



Epping Forest District Council

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 18th July, 2006

Place: Civic Offices, High Street, Epping
Room: Committee Room 1
Time: 7.30 pm
Committee Secretary: Graham Lunnun, Research and Democratic Services
Tel: 01992 564244 Email: glunnun@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Members:

Dr D Hawes (Chairman), Ms M Marshall, G Weltch, Councillors Mrs D Borton and Mrs P Smith

Parish/Town Council Deputy Representative(s):

Councillors J Salter, K Percy (Deputy)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 12)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 11 April and 22 June 2006 (attached).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To declare interests in any item on the agenda.

4. ETHICAL STANDARDS - RESOURCES

Decision Required;

To consider a report on the need for additional resources.

(Monitoring Officer) Legislation is expected to be passed by Parliament devolving to the local level the receipt of all complaints from the public and decision taking on which ones are to be investigated. This will increase the workload for monitoring officers and other staff concerned with the ethical framework and necessitate a request to the Council for additional resources.

Report to follow.

5. ALLEGATIONS ABOUT THE CONDUCT OF DISTRICT AND PARISH/TOWN COUNCILLORS - CURRENT POSITION (Pages 13 - 14)

(Monitoring Officer) To note the attached schedule.

6. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

(Monitoring Officer) The calendar for 2006/07 provides for meetings of the Committee on 17 October 2006, 27 February 2007 and 25 April 2007.

Additional meetings can be arranged as and when required by the Committee.

7. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

To consider whether, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press should be excluded from the meeting for the items of business set out below on grounds that they will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act indicated:

Agenda Item No	Subject	Exempt Information Paragraph Number
8	Appointment of Sub-Adjudication Committee	7C

To resolve that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items which are confidential under Section 100(A)(2) of the Local Government Act 1972:

Agenda Item No	Subject
Nil	Nil

Paragraph 9 of the Council Procedure Rules contained in the Constitution require:

- (1) All business of the Council requiring to be transacted in the presence of the press and public to be completed by 10.00 p.m. at the latest.
- (2) At the time appointed under (1) above, the Chairman shall permit the completion of debate on any item still under consideration, and at his or her discretion, any other remaining business whereupon the Council shall proceed to exclude the public and press.
- (3) Any public business remaining to be dealt with shall be deferred until after the completion of the private part of the meeting, including items submitted for report rather than decision.

Background Papers: Paragraph 8 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules of the Constitution define background papers as being documents relating to the subject matter of the report which in the Proper Officer's opinion:

- (a) disclose any facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the report is based; and
- (b) have been relied on to a material extent in preparing the report does not include published works or those which disclose exempt or confidential information (as defined in Rule 10) and in respect of executive reports, the advice of any political advisor.

Inspection of background papers may be arranged by contacting the officer responsible for the item.

8. APPOINTMENT OF ADJUDICATION SUB-COMMITTEE (Pages 15 - 16)

To consider a restricted report.