

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Extract of the Minutes of a meeting of the Standards Committee held on
3rd November 2005 commencing at 7 p.m.

Present: Mr. Riddell (Chairman)
Cllr. Mrs. Dunckley (Vice-Chairman)

Cllrs. Dibsdall and Loney.

Independent Member: Mr. Hobbs.

Town/Parish Representative: Mr. London.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Taylor (Parish Representative) and Cllr. Tuke.

PROCESS AND PROCEDURE FOR INTERVIEWING (INDEPENDENT AND TOWN/PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE) APPLICANTS FOR THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Monitoring Officer advised that the Council had possible independent and parish and town council Committee members waiting to be interviewed. The Committee was informed that there was no prescribed way of carrying out the appointment process for independent and town and parish members of the Committee. As requested at the last meeting of the Committee, the Monitoring Officer had written to all town and parish council's requesting them to put forward nominations.

The Committee was also asked to consider whether the interview panel should ask prescribed questions. This issue was considered and prescribed questions were felt to be too confining and problematic.

A concern was raised regarding the political affiliation of town and parish council applicants. The Monitoring Officer advised that the Committee should be non-political and it was therefore impossible to stop applicants of any political persuasion applying. It was also felt that members should put aside political allegiance when serving on the Committee.

As only a small number of applicants had applied, it was considered fair to interview them all.

Resolved: The Committee approved the procedure and process for interviewing and appointing independent and parish/town representatives for membership of the District Council's Standards Committee, as attached to these minutes at Appendix A.

APPENDIX A

PROCESS AND PROCEDURE FOR INTERVIEWING AND APPOINTING (INDEPENDENT AND TOWN/PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE) APPLICANTS FOR THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Standards Committee will meet to interview candidates.

Members of the Committee to be given as much notice as possible of the date(s) when the Standards Committee will meet.

The Standards Committee will meet in the evening where possible.

After the interviews have taken place, and the interviewees have left, the Committee will then make a decision on who is the preferred applicant(s) and may then appoint. Those appointed to be informed accordingly.