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Halstead Parish Council

Case no. SBE21788.08
Member: Councillor David Taylor
Authority: Halstead Parish Council
Date received: 15 Apr 2008
Date completed: 25 Sep 2008

Allegation:

The member failed to disclose a personal interest and failed to withdraw from a meeting in which they had a prejudicial interest.

Standards Board outcome:

The ethical standards officer found no evidence of any failure to comply with the Code of Conduct.

The complainant alleged that Councillor David Taylor had, on a number of occasions, declared the wrong interest in matters relating to Halstead Cricket Club.

The ethical standards officer examined Councillor Taylor's links with the cricket club at the time of each of the instances the complainant specified. The ethical standards officer concluded from this that there were no instances where Councillor Taylor's circumstances gave him an interest he had failed to declare.

The ethical standards officer did not find any evidence that Councillor Taylor had failed to comply with the Code of Conduct.

Relevant paragraphs of the Code of Conduct

The allegation in this case relates to Paragraphs 9 and 12 of the Code of Conduct.

Paragraph 9 states that "a member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent".

Paragraph 12 states that a member with a prejudicial interest in any matter must "withdraw from the room or chamber where a meeting is being held whenever it becomes apparent that the matter is being considered at that meeting" and that he must "not seek improperly to influence a decision about that matter".

