EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee: Standards Committee Date: 24 April 2008

Place: Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Time: 7.30 - 8.25 pm

High Street, Epping

Members Ms M Marshall (Independent Member) (Chairman), G Weltch (Independent

Present: Member) and Councillor Mrs P Smith (Epping Forest Council Appointee)

Other

Councillors:

Apologies: Councillor B Surtees, Councillor Mrs D Borton and Councillor

Mrs J H Whitehouse

Officers C O'Boyle (Monitoring Officer), I Willett (Deputy Monitoring Officer), S G Hill

Present: (Senior Democratic Services Officer) and G Lunnun (Allegations

Determination Manager)

31. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26 February 2008 be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

32. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

(a) Planning Protocol (Minute 23)(a))

The Deputy Monitoring Officer reported that it had not been possible to agree a convenient date for the proposed training session. However, emails had been sent to relevant staff, a letter had been sent to local councils and an item had been included in the Council Bulletin. In addition an advice note had been included on Area Plans Sub-Committee agenda. The Committee noted that the issue would also be addressed in future training sessions regarding the Protocol.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made pursuant to the Council's Code of Member Conduct.

34. SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT 2007/08

The Committee considered a draft of their sixth Annual Report for 2007/08. Several alterations were agreed and the Chairman advised that she would be sending an email to the Deputy Monitoring Officer with proposed further amendments.

RESOLVED:

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(1) That the officers be authorised to amend the report in accordance with Members' views and arrange for its submission to the Annual meeting of the Council on 15 May 2008; and

(2) That, if possible, the Chairman of the Committee attend the Annual meeting to present the report.

35. WALTHAM ABBEY TOWN COUNCIL - APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

The Committee received a report on applications for dispensation from all members of Waltham Abbey Town Council.

In accordance with Section 100(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, together with paragraphs 6 and 25 of the Council's Procedure Rules, the Chairman had permitted on the grounds of urgency, the inclusion of this item of business so that the vacancy on the Town Council could be filled without delay.

The Committee was advised that in the absence of a Parish Council representative it would not be possible to consider this report.

RESOLVED:

That a Sub-Committee comprising Ms M Marshall, G Weltch and Councillor Mrs D Borton or Councillor B Surtees be authorised to consider and to determine the applications for dispensation.

36. TRAINING FOR LOCAL ASSESSMENT

The Deputy Monitoring Officer advised that Braintree District Council had now confirmed the arrangements for a training session for local assessment being held on 12 May 2008.

Members were asked to advise if they proposed to attend the training session.

In accordance with Section 100(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, together with paragraphs 6 and 25 of the Council's Procedure Rules, the Chairman had permitted on grounds of urgency, the inclusion of this item of business so that Braintree District Council could be advised of the members and officers attending.

RESOLVED:

That Braintree District Council be advised that this Council will be represented at the training session by Ms M Marshall, M Wright, Councillor Mrs P Smith, Councillor B Surtees, the Monitoring Officer, the Deputy Monitoring Officer and the Allegations Determination Manager.

37. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Committee noted that the calendar for 2008/09 provided for meetings of the Committee on 15 July 2008, 13 October 2008, 27 January 2009 and 14 April 2009.

CHAIRMAN