



Epping Forest District Council

STANDARDS COMMITTEE **Tuesday, 18th January, 2011**

Place:	Civic Offices, High Street, Epping
Room:	Committee Room 1
Time:	7.30 pm
Democratic Services Officer	Graham Lunnun (The Office of the Chief Executive) Tel: 01992 564244 Email: glunnun@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Members:

R Crone (Independent Member)(Chairman), J Guth (Independent Member)(Vice-Chairman), M Wright (Independent Member), Councillors Mrs A Grigg, Mrs P Smith and Mrs J H Whitehouse (District Council Appointees), Councillors Mrs D Borton and B Surtees (Parish/Town Council Representatives), Vacancy for Parish/Town Council Representative.

1. COUNCILLOR JASON SALTER

The Committee is invited to stand for a minute's silence in tribute to the memory of Parish Councillor Jason Salter who died recently.

Jason Salter was a member of the Stanford Rivers Parish council and more recently the Abbess, Beauchamp and Berners Roding Parish Council. He was one of the Town/Parish Council representatives on the Standards Committee from 2001 until 2007 and from 2009 .

He was also Vice-Chairman of the Local Councils' Liaison Committee.

The Essex Association of Local Councils – Epping Forest have been asked to submit a nomination to the Committee in succession to Jason.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 10)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2010 (attached).

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(Monitoring Officer) To declare interests in any item on the agenda.

5. ABOLITION OF STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND REGIME (Pages 11 - 24)

(Deputy Monitoring Officer) To consider the attached report.

6. ALLEGATIONS MADE ABOUT THE CONDUCT OF DISTRICT AND PARISH/TOWN COUNCILLORS (Pages 25 - 28)

(Monitoring Officer) To consider the attached schedule showing the current position of active cases.

7. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

(Monitoring Officer) The calendar for 2010/11 provides for a meeting of the Committee on 19 April 2011.

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

The draft calendar of meetings for 2011/12 which will be considered by the Council in February currently provides for meetings of the Standards Committee as follows:

28 July 2011 (Thursday)
20 October 2011 (Thursday)
26 January 2012 (Thursday)
19 April 2012 (Thursday).

8. 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
9	Allegations made about the Conduct of District and Parish/Town Councillors – Issues Arising	1

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.

9. ALLEGATIONS MADE ABOUT THE CONDUCT OF DISTRICT AND PARISH/TOWN COUNCILLORS - ISSUES ARISING

(Monitoring Officer) To discuss issues arising from recent Sub-Committee meetings.