

# Minutes

of the Meeting of the

## Standards Sub-Committee

**Tuesday, 14th June 2016**

held at the Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

Meeting Commenced: 2.00 pm Meeting Concluded: 3.00 pm

### Councillors:

P Andy Cole

P Jill Iles

A Peter Crew

P John Ley-Morgan (substitute for  
Peter Crew)

P: Present

A: Apologies for absence submitted

**Also present (co-opted, non-voting):** Ian Carrington-Porter (Independent Lay Person), Bill Bearsby (Independent Parish Councillor)

**Officers in attendance:** Sara Saunders (Solicitor, Corporate Services Directorate), Julia Parkes (Corporate Services Directorate)

### SSC Election of Chairman for the Meeting (Agenda Item 1)

1

**Resolved:** that Councillor Andy Cole be elected Chairman for the meeting (Councillor Cole in the Chair)

### SSC Declarations of Interest by Members (Agenda Item 3)

2

None

### SSC Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 April 2016 (Agenda Item 4)

3

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record.

### SSC Exclusion of Press and Public

4

**Resolved:** that the press, public and officers not required by the members or officers advising to remain during the exempt session be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that its consideration will involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 1001 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Item	Reason for the Exemption
Minute no. SSC 5	Paragraphs 1 and 6 of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972

**SSC 5**      **Complaints against a Town Councillor (01/2016) – Appendices (Agenda Item 5)**

The Sub-Committee considered a complaint received from members of the Council regarding the Clevedon Town Council Chairman stating that the Councillor had breached the Clevedon Town Council Code of Conduct applicable to councillors.

The Solicitor, for Corporate Services Directorate acting on behalf of the Deputy Monitoring Officer outlined the complaint.

The Sub-Committee received the views of the Independent Lay Person and the Independent Parish Councillor.

The Sub-Committee considered the complaints, and also the responses from the Councillors against whom the allegations were made.

**Resolved:** on the basis of the complaint as submitted, and in particular:

(1) with regard to the allegation received by the sub-committee from the complainant, that the Chairman of Clevedon Town Council had acted inappropriately at a meeting of the Council.

(2) that accordingly Councillor Watkins by that behaviour had breached Part 1. 3 (1) and (2) (b) of the Clevedon Town Council Code of Conduct in that he did not treat others with respect, and his behaviour was bullying.

(3) that as a consequence of the finding that Councillor Watkins breached the Clevedon Town Council code of conduct, that he be censured by the sub-committee and told, that even if provoked, he should desist from similar behaviour at council meetings in the future. If there are any further complaints from Councillors of Clevedon Town Council, an investigation should be made.

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Chairman

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