

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

HELD ON TUESDAY 25th JULY 2006

Present: Councillors B. Burn, B. Joyce, W. Local
and E. Smith

Apologies: Councillors B. Wilson, Mrs. M. Goyns
and Miss J. Clark

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED that Mr. W. Local be elected Chair of the Standards Committee for the ensuing year.

MR. W. LOCAL TOOK THE CHAIR.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor B. Burn be appointed Vice Chair of the Standards Committee for the ensuing year.

3. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 31st March 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were confirmed.

4. ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES

The Monitoring Officer advised that the Fifth Annual Assembly of Standards Committees would be held on 16th - 17th October 2006 at the ICC in Birmingham.

Members were advised that the Monitoring Officer had been requested to speak at the Conference and would therefore be attending free of charge.

The Monitoring Officer explained that in previous years, the District Council had taken the decision not to attend the Annual Conference on the basis of cost and that adequate training for Standards Committee Members was available locally.

It was suggested that as the Monitoring Officer was attending and speaking at the Conference, he be requested to prepare a detailed report on the issues discussed.

RESOLVED that the District Council not be represented at the Fifth Annual Assembly and the Monitoring Officer prepare a detailed report on the issues discussed at the Conference for consideration at a future meeting.

5. ADDITIONAL URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS

In accordance with the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, Section 100B(4)(b) the Chair, following consultation with the Proper Officer, agreed that the following item of business, not shown on the Agenda, be considered as a matter of urgency

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6. THE ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES IN ENGLAND (AOB)

The Monitoring Officer advised that the Association of Independent Members of Standards Committees in England (AIMSce) was a new professional body established to provide peer group support, champion the role of Independent Members and represent their interests.

Members were advised that the inaugural meeting of AIMSce would be held on 16th October 2006 at the Fringe Meeting for Independent Members at the Fifth Annual Assembly of Standards Committees.

Details of the Association and an Agenda for the meeting were circulated to Members.

Concern was expressed that the establishment of such an Association for Independent Members may diminish the independent nature of their role if they joined the Association.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

JW/CB/COM/STANDARDS/060702
26th July 2006