

Standards Committee

Agenda

Date: Monday, 18th June, 2012
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach
CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests in any item on the agenda

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a total period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the Committee on any matter relevant to the work of the Committee.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide at least three clear working days' notice in writing and should include the question with that notice. This will enable an informed answer to be given. It is not required to give notice of the intention to make use of public speaking provision, however, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours notice is encouraged.

Please contact Diane Moulson on 01270 686476
E-Mail: diane.moulson@cheshireeast.gov.uk any apologies or requests for further information or to give notice of a question to be asked by a member of the public

4. **Minutes of Previous meeting** (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2012.

5. **Localism Act 2011: New Code of Conduct** (Pages 5 - 34)

The Standards provisions in relation to the Localism Act 2011 are due to be brought in to force with effect from 01 July 2012, at which time the nationally prescribed Model Code of Conduct for Members will be abolished.

Cheshire East Council and all Town and Parish Councils within the Borough must adopt a new Code of Conduct which sets out the conduct expected of Members when acting in their capacity as an elected Member. The report of the Borough Solicitor contains a draft Code (Appendix 4) which, it is hoped will be adopted across the Cheshire Authorities to include Town and Parish Councils and the Fire Authority.

Members are asked to approve and recommend the Code of Conduct to Council for adoption.

6. **Investigation of Complaints: Procedure** (Pages 35 - 50)

The report of the Borough Solicitor and Monitoring Officer invites the Committee to i) approve and recommend to Council the adoption of a new procedure for the investigation of complaints under the Council's new Code of Conduct as required by the Localism Act 2011; and ii) recommend to Constitution Committee additional Terms of Reference for the Audit and Governance Committee for adoption by Council on 19 July 2012.

7. **Application for Dispensation: Rostherne Parish Council** (Pages 51 - 78)

To consider an application for dispensation from seven Members of Rostherne Parish Council.