

## **MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a **MEETING** of the **STANDARDS COMMITTEE** held on Wednesday 31 July 2013 at 6.00pm

**Present:** R J Chesterton, R M Deed, R Evans, Mrs L J Holloway, C Slade, Mrs N Woollatt and R Wright.

**Apology:** Mrs S M Fox and Mrs M E Turner

**Also Present  
Councillor:** Mrs J Roach

**Officers  
Present** K Finan (Chief Executive), A Tregellas (Head of Communities and Governance, Monitoring Officer) and S Gabriel (Principal Member Services Officer)

### **1. CHAIRMAN – ELECTION (Chief Executive in the Chair)**

**RESOLVED** that Cllr C Slade be elected Chairman of the Committee for the municipal year 2013/14

Cllr Slade then took the Chair.

### **2. VICE CHAIRMAN – ELECTION**

**RESOLVED** that Cllr Mrs L J Holloway be elected Vice Chairman of the Committee for the municipal year 2013/14

### **3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

### **4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman thanked those present for supporting his election.

### **5. ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT – EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act the public be excluded from the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to an individual.

(Proposed by the Chairman)

6. **DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST COUNCILLORS**

As Cllr Mrs J Roach had requested that this item be discussed the Chairman invited her to speak: she outlined her issues with regard to specific action taken against a Councillor and discussion followed regarding this matter.

Note: Following completion of the discussion, the meeting returned to open session.

7. **CONSTITUTION WORKING GROUP**

The Monitoring Officer informed Members that the Working Group had begun to consider a new Constitution in January of this year, a model document was obtained from ACSeS and work had begun to personalise it to Mid Devon. Members had considered design issues and looked at the Articles, Responsibility of Functions and the Scheme of Delegation.

Members requested that once the Working Group had completed its task a Member Briefing take place on the new Constitution.

8. **COMPLAINTS**

The Monitoring Officer informed the Committee that a number of complaints had been received in the past few weeks, one of which was a Parish issue and three referred to Members of the District Council.

9 **TRAINING**

The Monitoring Officer would progress training with regard to hearings with the three Members who had missed the initial session. Additional training would be provided as and when required.

10. **STARTING TIME AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**

It was **AGREED** that the starting time for meetings remain at 6.00pm and that meetings be held on a Wednesday as required.

11 **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

- Constitution
- Update regarding complaints
- Issues arising

(The meeting terminated at 7.00pm)

**CHAIRMAN**