

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
30 NOVEMBER 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee of Flintshire County Council held as a remote attendance meeting on Monday, 30 November 2020

PRESENT: Rob Dewey (Chairman)

Councillor: Arnold Woolley

Co-opted member: Julia Hughes

IN ATTENDANCE: Deputy Monitoring Officer and Democratic Services Officer

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

None.

21. DISPENSATIONS

The Deputy Monitoring Officer provided background information to the dispensation request from Councillor Mike Peers (who was not present) relating to his personal planning application 061720. Having previously been granted permission on an existing planning application on his property, Councillor Peers' subsequent application for an amendment to that extension had been granted under the delegated decision process in error, as applications by elected Members should be determined by the Planning Committee.

To rectify the matter, the item was to be submitted to a forthcoming meeting to enable the Planning Committee to endorse or revoke the planning permission which had been given.

As a member of the Planning Committee, Councillor Peers was seeking dispensation to write and speak to officers on the matter and to write and speak and/or answer questions when the application was heard by the Planning Committee, but to leave before the debate and vote.

22. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - TO CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

At this point, the Chairman proposed that the meeting move into closed session - as provided for under the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985. This was seconded by Julia Hughes.

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting as the item was considered to be exempt by virtue of paragraph 18C of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

23. DISPENSATIONS

RESOLVED:

That Flintshire County Councillor Mike Peers be granted dispensation under paragraphs (d) and (f) of the Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to write and speak to officers and to write to Council/Committee meetings but to leave before the debate and vote on planning application 061720. This allows for making verbal and written communications on the matter to officers of Flintshire County Council provided there is at least one witness when speaking to officers, thereby ensuring that there are at least three people involved in the conversation which should be minuted. The dispensation to be granted for 12 months, ceasing on 29 November 2021 and to extend to any application which, in the opinion of the Monitoring Officer, is substantially similar.

24. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.25pm)

.....
Chairman