

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
5TH FEBRUARY 2024

Minutes of the Standards Committee of Flintshire County Council held as a remote attendance meeting on Monday, 5th February 2024

PRESENT: Julia Hughes (Chair)

Councillor: Teresa Carberry

Co-opted member: David Wynn Davies

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Officer (Governance) / Monitoring Officer and Team Leader - Democratic Services.

58. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

None.

59. DISPENSATIONS

The Chief Officer (Governance) provided background information on the dispensation request from Councillor David Healey. He explained that the Standards Committee had previously granted the dispensation request as follows:

That Flintshire County Councillor David Healey be granted dispensation under paragraphs (d), (f) and (i) of the Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to speak to and write to officers; and to speak for five minutes at meetings of the Planning Committee both in relation to the above application and also any application which, in the opinion of the Monitoring Officer, was similar. Councillor Healey was advised that when he speaks to officers about the Issue there needs to be an independent witness present and there must be minutes taken of any such meetings.

Councillor Healey could speak at the above meetings about the Issue but should leave the meeting once he has spoken and before the matter was debated and voted on.

Before speaking at any such meetings about the Issue Councillor Healey should still declare his interest in the matter and confirm that he has a dispensation to speak about it. The same applies to any written communications with officers. The dispensation to be granted for 12 months, ceasing on 8 January 2024.

The request before the Committee was a repeated application and Councillor Healey had confirmed he was content for the same form to be submitted.

The Monitoring Officer explained that the dispensation had been requested to be heard at this meeting as a planning application in relation to the site was due to be submitted to the Planning Committee later that month.

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

RESOLVED:

At this point, the Chair proposed that the press and public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting for the following item by virtue of exempt information under paragraph(s) 18C of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

61. DISPENSATION - DECISION

RESOLVED:

That Flintshire County Councillor David Healey be granted dispensation under paragraphs (d), (f) and (i) of the Standards Committee (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 to speak to and write to officers; and to speak for five minutes at meetings of the Planning Committee both in relation to the above application and also any application which, in the opinion of the Monitoring Officer, was similar. Councillor Healey would be advised that when he speaks to officers about the issue there would need to be an independent witness present and there must be minutes taken of any such meetings.

Councillor Healey could speak at the above meetings about the issue but should leave the meeting once he has spoken and before the matter was debated and voted on. Before speaking at any such meetings about the issue Councillor Healey should still declare his interest in the matter and confirm that he has a dispensation to speak about it. The same applies to any written communications with officers. The dispensation to be granted for 12 months, ceasing on 4th February 2025.

62. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

None.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.14pm)

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