

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 30 APRIL 2007

PRESENT:- Mr Keith Carby (Chair), Mr Trevor Davies (Vice-Chair), Mr Mike Compton and Councillor Melanie Duff.

33. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. No declarations were made.

34. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee Hearings Panel held on 23rd March 2007, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

35. Public Question Time

No public questions were received during the meeting.

36. Adoption of a new Code of Conduct for Members of Swindon Borough Council

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Law and Democratic Services, reporting on the new Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members (the Code) and recommending that it be adopted by Swindon Borough Council in place of its existing Code of Conduct, and recommending that Parish Councils within Swindon do likewise.

Resolved – 1) That Council be recommended to adopt the Model Code of Conduct issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government as set out in the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 [‘the Code’], together with a preamble incorporating the ten general principles governing the conduct of members, in place of its existing Code;

2) That Parish Councils within Swindon be recommended to adopt the Code and preamble before 1st October 2007;

3) That all Members and co-opted Members of Swindon Borough Council be requested to attend the training session on the new Code which has been arranged for members on the 13th June 2007, and all members be encouraged to attend the introductory session on 9th May 2007 which has been arranged as part of the Induction for new members;

4) That it be noted and welcomed that two training sessions on the new Code have been arranged for Parish Councillors on 10th May and 24th May; and

5) That consequential changes to the Council’s existing Codes and Protocols needed as a result of the adoption of the Code be included in the Standards Committee Work Programme for 2007/08, including an amendment to the Member / Officer Protocol to require Members to consult with the Monitoring Officer prior to the disclosure of any confidential information.