

Present

Councillor G Dadd
Mrs B S Fortune

Councillor M Rigby

Independent Person

Mr R C Pennington

Parish Council Representative

Mrs C Artingstoll

SHP.4

CHAIRMAN

THE DECISION:

That Councillor Mrs B S Fortune be elected Chairman for duration of the meeting.

(Councillor Mrs B S Fortune in the Chair)

SHP.5

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

THE DECISION:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business at minute no SHP.6 on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as the Panel was satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

SHP.6

COMPLAINT ABOUT THE DISTRICT COUNCIL

The subject of the decision:

The Legal Manager presented a report relating to a complaint concerning the actions of the District Council's Council Tax Team in connection with the complainant's Council Tax.

Alternative options considered:

None.

Reasons for the decision:

Having considered the Legal Manager's report, the accompanying documents, the representations of the parties, and the Council's complaints procedure, the Panel noted that the complainant had made council tax payments to the Council and asked for receipts to be sent to an alternative address. The Panel decided however that this was an address for receipts only and was not a notification to the Council of a formal change of residential address. The Council had, therefore, ensured that the personal data it held was accurate and up to date.

The Panel also decided that the Council had acted fairly and lawfully when passing the complainant's details to bailiffs for the purposes of recovering outstanding council tax. The Panel decided that the Council had been acting in accordance with section 29(3) of the Data Protection Act 1998, which provided an exemption to the non-disclosure principles.

THE DECISION:

The Council has not breached principles 4 and 7 of the Data Protection Act 1998. The complaint, therefore, is not upheld.

The meeting closed at 4.55pm

Chairman of the Panel