Minutes of the meeting of the AUDIT, GOVERNANCE AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE held at 9.30 am on Wednesday, 24th September, 2014 at MAIN COMMITTEE ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, STONE CROSS, NORTHALLERTON

Present

Councillor R W Hudson (in the Chair)

Councillor	R A Baker	Councillor	Mrs C Patmore
	G W Dadd		Mrs J Watson

Also in Attendance

Councillor N A Knapton Councillor M S Robson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J N Smith and M Rigby

AGS.12 RECORDING OF MEETINGS

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 introduced an obligation to allow recording of the proceedings of Council meetings and the dissemination of the information to the public. The Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules governed recording of Council meetings. This report suggested amendments to the Procedure Rules to introduce some further reasonable safeguards to protect the public attending meetings which may be recorded and to ensure there were no distractions or interruptions during meetings.

Alternative options considered:

The Committee considered the addition of a further amendment (h) to Rule 3.2 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules regarding prohibiting the recording of Members' personal papers at the meeting.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of the requirements of the Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to:-

- approve the amendments to Rule 3.2 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4 of the report, subject to the inclusion of (h) prohibit the recording of Members' personal papers at the meeting; and
- (2) consider the introduction of audio and visual recording by the Council at public meetings at an appropriate point in the future.

AGS.13 AMENDMENTS TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 introduced a requirement to amend the Council's Procedure Rules in connection with the recording of votes on budgetary matters. This report suggested amendments to the Constitution to comply with the Regulations.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to amend the Council Procedure Rules as set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report.

The meeting closed at 11.00 am

Chairman of the Committee