

Minutes of the reconvened meeting of the
STANDARDS HEARINGS PANEL held at 10.30 am
on Thursday, 20th April, 2017 at Meeting Room 2,
Civic Centre, Stone Cross, Northallerton

Councillor G W Dadd
R Kirk

Councillor Mrs J Watson

Independent Person

Mr D Rudd (Independent Person)

Parish Council Representative

Parish Councillor Mrs C Artingstoll

SHP.13 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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.14 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.14 **ALLEGATIONS ABOUT A TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER**

The subject of the decision:

The Deputy Monitoring Officer reported that notification had been received that the complainee and one of the complainants were unable to attend the reconvened hearing. The parties had confirmed they would all be able to attend a hearing on 15 May 2017.

Alternative options considered:

The Panel considered whether to continue in the absence of the relevant parties, however, the Panel concluded that to do so would not be in the interests of holding a fair hearing.

The reason for the decision:

The Panel considered the Deputy Monitoring Officer's verbal report and concluded that, in the interests of having a fair hearing and for all relevant parties to have the opportunity to attend and present their cases, the meeting would be formally closed and the matter relisted. The Panel noted the importance of having the matter dealt with in a timely manner and it further noted that if the parties were no longer able to attend on 15 May 2017 it was always open to the Panel to consider at that time whether it was appropriate to proceed in their absence.

THE DECISION:

That the Panel formally close the meeting to enable the matter to be relisted and considered at a meeting of the Panel on 15 May 2017.

The meeting closed at 10.45 am

Chairman of the Panel