

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL
STANDARDS COMMITTEE (HEARING PANEL)

4 April 2022

PRESENT: -

Cllr N Poole, Cllr C O'Sullivan and Cllr D Wells

Dr Harvie (Independent Person)

The meeting was held at the UCNL Bulding, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe.

400 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL AND PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL (IF ANY).

Cllr Wells declared a personal interest as a ward member.

401 TO CONSIDER A PROPOSED CHANGE OF PROCEDURE

Resolved – It was agreed that the uncontested hearing procedure be varied given that the Investigating Officers and Respondent Councillor had agreed the facts on which the hearing would proceed. Accordingly, paragraphs 5 to 12 of the procedure were dispensed with.

402 TO CONSIDER THE FINDINGS OF THE INVESTIGATING OFFICERS (BRIEF INTRODUCTION BY THE MONITORING OFFICER) INTO AN ALLEGATION THAT A MEMBER OF GOXHILL PARISH COUNCIL BREACHED THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT.

The Hearings Panel followed the set procedure for a contested hearing, with the exception agreed in minute 402 (above).

Following submissions from the Investigating Officers, the Independent Person, and the councillor, the Hearings Panel retired to consider whether there was a breach of paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 of the Code of Conduct. Following these considerations, the panel reconvened to discuss possible sanctions, again, inviting submissions from the Investigating Officers, the Independent Person, and the councillor. The Panel subsequently retired to consider sanctions.

Resolved – (a) That the Hearings Panel conclude that Cllr England breached paragraph 3.1 of the Code of Conduct, (b) that the Monitoring Officer write an appropriate letter of censure to Cllr England reflecting the breach of Paragraph 3.1 of the Code of Conduct, (c) that Cllr England draft and send a letter of personal apology to Miss Haines, copied to the Monitoring Officer, within the next 14 days, (d) that the outcome of today's hearing be made available to the public via our website and the minutes of today's Hearing Panel, (e) that the outcome of today's hearing, including the Monitoring Officer's letter of censure, be reported to a future public meeting of Goxhill

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Parish Council, (f) that Goxhill Parish Council offer Cllr England, and any other interested member, any relevant Code of Conduct and Nolan Principle training; and (g) that the Investigating Officers be thanked for their work in drafting their report, and that all attendees be thanked for their contribution.