

NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the ETHICS COMMITTEE held at the Civic Centre, Barnstaple on Wednesday 21st January 2015 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Members:

Councillor White (Chairman).

Councillors, Harrison, and Manuel.

Non-Voting Member of the Committee:

Parish Councillor Kenyon.

Officers:

Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer (KM) and Corporate and Community Administrator (KD).

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Croft, Moores, Wilkinson and Mr Jeanes.

2 MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th March 2014 (circulated previously) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

4 THE STANDARDS REGIME

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer (circulated previously) regarding the Standards Regime.

The Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer addressed the Committee providing a summary of the new regime and highlighting examples of being proactive in dealing with complaints by providing advice and guidance at an early stage. He advised that having an independent person had proven vital and worked well in the process.

In response to a question the Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer advised that the Localism Act would allow for the Council to return to the old regime at anytime should it so wish. The Committee was content with the new regime and agreed that it had been successful.

Parish Councillor Keynon requested a copy of the report together with a copy of the North Devon Council protocol on recording/filming at Council meetings in order or him to share with other Members of his Parish Council.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted and recommended to Council for information.

5 **COMPENSATION PAYMENTS MADE UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

The Committee considered a report by the Quality Manager (circulated previously) in respect of compensation payments made to complainants under delegated powers by Heads of Service.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 6:30 p.m.

NOTE: these minutes will be confirmed as a correct record at the next meeting of the Committee.