

## SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the STANDARDS COMMITTEE held on 24 September 2007, in Committee Room 2, The Civic Centre, Portholme Road, Selby, commencing at 4.00pm.

316	Chair's Address to the Standards Committee
317	Minutes
318	The Code of Conduct Uncovered – Video Presentation
319	Parish Council Member Elections
320	Standards Committee – Independent members Regional Forum October 2007
321	Summary of the Standards Board Annual Report 2006/07
322	Corporate Governance Code of Practice
323	Standards Board for England Investigation SBE18920.07
324	Dates and Times of Future Meetings of the Standards Committee

Present: Councillor C Lunn in the Chair.

Councillors: Ms M Davis

Also in attendance: B Crossdale (Parish Council representative)

Officials: Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services, Democratic Services Officer.

Public: 0

Press: 0

### 314 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Stell.

### 315 **Disclosure of Interest**

None received.

### 316 **Chair's Address to the Standards Committee**

The Chair gave no address.

317 **Minutes**

**Resolved:**

**That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 25 June 2007 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chair.**

318 **The Code of Conduct Uncovered – Video Presentation**

Members watched a DVD which had been produced by the Standards Board and which highlighted the key changes to the revised Code of Conduct.

Members agreed that the DVD had been instructive and that it could provide a valuable means of training from which both Selby District councillors and parish councillors could benefit.

Members also considered the possibility of issuing a copy of the DVD to each parish council.

Members discussed the means by which parish councils could be involved in training and the options by which that training could be delivered.

**Resolved that:**

- i) District Councillors be invited to a training session on the revised Code of Conduct**
- ii) Training sessions be set up with parish councillors covering the revised Code of Conduct and other relevant issues; and**
- iii) The possibility of issuing a copy of the Code of Conduct DVD to all parish councils be investigated by the Democratic Services Officer.**

319 **Parish Council Member Elections**

The Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services informed councillors that the current parish councillor representatives had served on the Standards Committee for three years, and under section 7.02(c) of the Constitution, it would be necessary to hold elections for these posts.

The Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services also informed councillors that the current independent members had served on the

Standards Committee for three years, and under section 7.02(b) of the Constitution, it would be necessary to hold elections for these posts.

**Resolved that:**

- i) Elections for the parish council seats on the Standards Committee be held by ballot through the auspices of the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations; and**
- ii) Elections for the independent member seats on the Standards Committee be held in accordance with the Relevant Authorities (Standards Committee) Regulations 2001.**

320 **Standards Committee – Independent Members Regional Forum October 2007**

Members were informed that the Independent Members Regional Forum would be held in October 2007 at County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire.

**Resolved that:**

- i) The independent members of the Standards Committee reply directly to the Independent Members Regional Forum with regard to their attendance; and**
- ii) Feedback be provided to the Committee by any independent member who attended the Forum.**

321 **Summary of the Standards Board Annual Report 2006/07**

Members received a summary of the Standards Board Annual Report 2006/07. This examined the Standards Board's performance over the past 12 months and looked at the challenges and opportunities it would face in the coming year.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

322 **Corporate Governance Code of Practice**

Members considered the Corporate Governance Code of Practice, but in the light of the coming elections for the parish councillor representative and independent member seats, decided that the matter should be deferred until the new committee had been established.

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**Resolved:**

**That a review of the Corporate Governance Code of Practice be deferred until the new membership of the Standards Committee had been established.**

323

**Standards Board for England Investigation SBE18920.07**

The Head of Service – Legal and Democratic Services reported to members on the progress of two current investigations.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

324

**Dates and Times of Future Meetings of the Standards Committee**

Members discussed the date and time of the next two meetings of the Standards Committee.

**Resolved:**

**That the next two meetings be held on:**

- i) Monday 21 January 2008 commencing at 5:00pm; and**
- ii) Monday 28 April 2008 commencing at 5:00pm.**

The meeting closed at 4:59pm.