

EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STANDARDS BOARD

Date: 13 January 2010

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.00 pm

Present: Graham Blagden (Chairman)

East Northamptonshire Councillors: Glenvil Greenwood- Smith Roger Powell

Brian Northall

Town and Parish Councillors: Don Campbell Sue North

Prudence Goss Arthur Whittaker

Independent Members: Hilary Daniels Lance Quantrill

PART A ITEMS

315. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

316. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Barbara Jenney and Mr Graham Matthews sent apologies. The Committee noted that the appointment of Mr Graham Matthews as an Independent Member of the Standards Board had been confirmed at Full Council on 11 January 2009.

317. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs Sue North and Councillors Glenvil Greenwood-Smith, Brian Northall and Roger Powell declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 as they each knew some of the Rushden Town Council Members requesting a dispensation.

318. THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES (STANDARDS COMMITTEES) (DISPENSATIONS) REGULATIONS 2002

Secondary legislation made under the Local Government Act 2000 empowered the Board to consider and, in certain specified circumstances grant, dispensations in respect of Members of East Northamptonshire Council and the Town and Parish Councils in East Northamptonshire.

The Board considered a formal request for dispensations from eleven Rushden Town Councillors in respect of discussions about the transfer of the public conveniences in Duck Street and Newton Road from East Northamptonshire Council to the Town Council due to their position as members of both Councils, in accordance with the Relevant Authorities (Standards Committee) (Dispensation) Regulations 2002.

The Board discussed a suitable time limit for the dispensation which would ensure the Town Council had sufficient time to discuss the transfer of the public conveniences as part of their budget-setting process.

It was noted that the Monitoring Officer would discuss with the Members who had requested the dispensation their position regarding discussing the transfer of the public conveniences at District Council meetings and it was expected that the appropriate declarations of interest would be made. The Board agreed that the letter regarding the Board's decision would make clear that the dispensation would only relate to discussions of the transfer of the conveniences at Rushden Town Council meetings.

RESOLVED:

That the request for a dispensation for Councillors C Wright, R Lewis, Mrs G Mercer, S North, R Underwood, A Mercer, Mrs M Hollomon, Mrs S Peacock, C Wood, R Pinnock and Mrs B Jenney, of Rushden Town Council in respect of discussions about the transfer of the public conveniences in Duck Street and Newton Road from East Northamptonshire Council to the Town Council, be granted until 31 March 2011.

Chairman