

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

(Remotely Via Teams)

Members Present:

7 September 2021

Chairperson: C.L.Jones

Vice Chairperson: B.Richards

Independent Members: L.Fleet

NPTCBC Members: **Councillors** S.E.Freeguard and D.Keogh

Officers In Attendance: C.Griffiths and T.Davies

Invitees: K.Charles (Clerk to Neath Town Council) and W.Thomas (Clerk to Coedffranc Town Council)

Apologies: **Councillors** T.Ward and G.Reynolds

1. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair took take the opportunity to welcome Kathryn Charles, Clerk of Neath Town Council and Wendy Thomas, Clerk of Coedffranc Town Council who joined the meeting for Agenda Item 5.

2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 27 January, 2021 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

3. **TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT MATTERS**

Members noted the views of the Town Council Clerks, regarding their relationship with the County Borough Council. Officers advised that the issues raised would be taken to the Town/Community Council Liaison Forum for discussion.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

4. **STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021**

RESOLVED: That the draft Annual Report of the Standards Committee be commended to full Council for approval.

5. **SUMMARY OF CASES UNDERTAKEN BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES**

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

6. **CODE OF CONDUCT GUIDANCE BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES**

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

7. **GRANT OF DISPENSATION IN RESPECT OF EMPLOYMENT MATTERS**

Members noted that this request for dispensation, if granted, would run until the remainder of this elected Council, until the first meeting of the Standards Committee following the Council Annual Meeting in 2022.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Charlotte Galsworthy be granted a dispensation to speak and vote on issues relating to the business of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, including relevant personnel matters, as set out in paragraph 11 to the circulated report.

8. **GRANT OF DISPENSATION UNDER S81(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000**

Members noted that this request for dispensation, if granted, would run until the remainder of this elected Council, until the first meeting of the Standards Committee following the Council Annual Meeting in 2022.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Nigel Hunt be granted a dispensation to speak but not vote, on all matters relating to Port Talbot Town Centre, specifically in respect of Aberavon Shopping Centre, retail conditions and developments in Port Talbot Town Centre, as set out in paragraph 8 to the circulated report.

CHAIRPERSON