

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

STANDARDS SUB COMMITTEE

25 JANUARY 2010

Complaint in respect of Councillors Sarah Harriman, Norman Smith, David Oliver and ex Councillor Glen Sidall-Butchers of Bonby Parish Council in respect of alleged breaches of the members Code of Conduct.

Monitoring Officer's Summary

1. The Complaint

Mrs Pauline Coyle a resident of Bonby submitted a complaint alleging failure to treat with respect (paragraph 3(1), bullying and intimidation (paragraph 3(2)(b) and disrepute (paragraph 5) arising out of a leaflet which had been distributed.

An Assessment Sub Committee of the Standards Committee referred the allegations to the Monitoring Officer for investigation.

2. Investigating Officers Report

The investigating officer appointed by the Monitoring Officer has completed his investigation and submitted his report to the Monitoring Officer. The report concluded that the Code had been breached by failing to treat with respect and bringing their office and authority into disrepute.

3. Pre Hearing

In preparation for the hearing before the sub committee the councillors have been provided with a copy of the report and various forms to complete to try and establish the issues which the sub committee need to determine. A response from Mr Siddall-Butchers is appended. The paragraph references relate to the investigating officer's report.

4. Key Factors

- (1) The contents, participation in and distribution of the leaflet "a response to the alternative view with a few facts that might interest the village".
- (2) Whether those contents can be viewed as relating to the complainant and are sufficient to justify a finding of the Members Code being breached in respect of 3(1) (treating others with respect); 3(2)(b) (bullying and intimidation) and 5 (disrepute).

5. Procedure

The procedure to be followed by the sub committee is enclosed with the agenda.

Mike Wood
Monitoring Officer
15 January 2010

15.01.10