

Selection & Constitutional Review Committee

Minutes of a Meeting of the Selection & Constitutional Review Committee held in Committee Room No. 2 (Bad Münstereifel Room), Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on the 9th July 2015.

Present:

Cllr. Clarkson (Chairman);

Cllrs. Mrs Bell, Bennett, Mrs Blanford, Burgess, Galpin, Koowaree, Mrs Martin, Ovenden, Shorter.

Apology:

Cllr. Bell

Also Present:

Cllrs. Miss Martin, Smith

Head of Personnel and Development, Member Services and Scrutiny Manager.

61 Declarations of Interest

Councillor	Interest	Minute No.
Shorter	Made a "Voluntary Announcement" as he was a Director of Kent Play Clubs and also a Director of A Better Choice for Building Consultancy Ltd, neither related to any items on the Agenda.	

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Resolved:

That the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on the 21st May 2015 be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

63 Statutory Officer Disciplinary/Dismissal Procedures

The Committee considered recommendations in response to DCLG regulations removing the "Designated Independent Person" (DIP) from the Disciplinary process for the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.

The Chairman clarified that Recommendation (ii) (a) was proposing that the Investigation and Disciplinary Committee be comprised of 15 Members from which a Committee of three would be appointed as required. He also explained that the selection of the three Members to sit on the Committee would take account of any involvement the individual Members had had with the matter to be considered.

The Member Services and Scrutiny Manager clarified that nominations from Group Leaders to membership of the Committee would be tabled at the Council meeting to be held on the 16th July 2015.

Recommended:

- That (i) **revised General Procedure Rules as attached to the report be adopted in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015.**
- (ii) (a) **a new Investigation and Disciplinary Committee be constituted on a broadly politically balanced basis comprising 15 Members (12 Conservatives, one Labour, one Ashford Independent and one other (from which a Committee of three (not politically balanced) would be appointed as required (as in the case of the current Appeals Committee).**
- (b) **Group Leaders be invited to nominate Members to the new Committee taking account of the membership criteria in the Terms of Reference at Appendix 1 to the report.**
- (c) **Councillor Koowaree be nominated to fill the one “other” seat on the Committee.**
- (iii) **the Council’s Monitoring Officer be authorised to make all necessary consequential changes to the Council’s Constitution, eg sections relating to the functions exercised by the Council, the Appeals Committee Terms of Reference, Procedure Rules Relating to Staff and Officer Employment Procedure Rules.**
- (iv) **the Head of Personnel and Development be authorised to take any necessary action to seek to align Contracts and Conditions of Service with the new statutory process.**

64 Representatives on Outside Bodies/Organisations

The report advised of the need to make a nomination to the appointment of a Member to sit on the Alzheimers Society – Ashford and Shepway Branch.

The Chairman advised that all appointments were currently the subject of a review in terms of their effectiveness and benefit to the Council and a further report on this issue would be submitted to the Committee later in the year.

Resolved:

That Councillor Smith be nominated to sit on the Alzheimers Society – Ashford and Shepway Branch.

Queries concerning these Minutes? Please contact Keith Fearon:
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