

Selection & Constitutional Review Committee

Minutes of a Meeting of the Selection & Constitutional Review Committee held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on the **12th July 2018**.

Present:

Cllr. Clarkson (Chairman);

Cllr. Bell (Vice-Chairman);

Cllrs. Barrett, Bennett, Bradford, Burgess, Clokie, Galpin, Hicks, Smith.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 1.2 (iii) Councillor Smith attended as Substitute Member for Councillor Ovenden.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Chilton, Koowaree, Ovenden.

Also Present:

Cllr. Shorter.

Principal Solicitor (Strategic Development), Member Services Manager (Operational).

100 Declarations of Interest

Councillor	Interest	Minute No.
Clarkson	Made a Voluntary Announcement as a Director of the ABC Property Company.	102

101 Minutes

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of this Committee held on the 1st May 2018 be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

102 Changes to the Constitution to Increase Efficiency in Dealing with Certain Planning Matters

The report recommended that some additional responsibilities be delegated to Officers, to improve efficiency when dealing with certain planning matters.

The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Development advised that he was fully supportive of the amendment set out in Paragraph 15 of the report, however he proposed deferral of the proposed amendment in Paragraph 10. Members advised that they would like to see some sort of enhanced process for notification of interested Ward Members on delegated planning decisions, to allow them to comment by way of an alert from the Case Officer. The Committee therefore asked for this issue to be discussed informally and brought back fairly swiftly to this Committee with a proposal.

In response to a question from a Member it was confirmed that Councillors would always have the inherent right to refer a planning application in their Ward to the Planning Committee. There were no plans to change that provision.

Recommended:

- That**
- (i) the change to the Constitution set out in paragraph 15 of the report be approved.**
 - (ii) the change to the Constitution set out in paragraph 10 of the report be deferred for more discussion and a report back to this Committee on an enhanced process for notifying Ward Members of delegated planning decisions.**

103 Representatives on Outside Bodies/Organisations

The Member Services Manager (Operational) introduced the report which advised of a need to make a nomination to a position on the Ashford Almshouses and Parochial Charities.

A Member advised that there was a need to appoint four Council representatives on these charities, but they did not have to be Elected Members. He considered the proposals provided a good and balanced solution and still retained three Elected Councillors.

Resolved:

That the Reverend Richard Bellamy be appointed as the Council's fourth representative on the Ashford Almshouses and Parochial Charities.

DS