

NOTE: THIS SUMMARY IS NOT THE FORMAL MINUTES OF THE HEARING PANEL. IT IS INTENDED TO GIVE EARLY NOTICE OF THE DECISIONS TAKEN.

IF YOU REQUIRE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE MEETING PLEASE CONTACT COMMITTEE SERVICES ON [01926] 456114.

2. **Substitutes** – There were no substitutes.
3. **Appointment of Chairman** – it was resolved that Councillor Pratt be Chairman for the meeting.
4. **Declarations of Interest** – These will be recorded in the minutes.
5. **Code of Conduct Complaint LSF.5.2012 & 5A.2012**

The panel has given careful consideration to all the information it has received and the representations it has heard today. We have concluded that in relation to:

ST NICHOLAS PARK COMPLAINT

Councillor Mrs Bromley was acting in her capacity as a Councillor from the time she identified herself as a Councillor in the telephone conversation with Mr Neville, who thereafter treated her as such. We do find that by approaching a Council contractor in these circumstances and by making him aware of her wish for additional cameras and additional spend on the scheme, Councillor Mrs Bromley was seeking to undermine or change the implementation of a council scheme and was therefore failing to work constructively with Council staff and therefore failed to comply with the Code of Conduct.

In the absence of any witness statement from Mr Neville, the Panel feels unable to comment on the remaining allegations.

CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT

That by failing to respond to various emails and letters from Mr Leach as set out in the Investigating Officer's report, Councillor Mrs Bromley was failing to work constructively with Council staff and therefore failed to comply with the Code of Conduct.

Similarly, by failing to respond to the letter sent by Mr Leach on behalf of the Standards Committee Councillor Mrs Bromley failed to value and respect her colleagues and therefore failed to comply with the Code of Conduct.;

COMMUNITY FORUM COMPLAINT

After carefully considering all the witness statements, the Panel has concluded on balance that Councillor Mrs Bromley failed to treat Ms Turpin with respect by the manner of her questions, not the content of her questions, at the Community Forum and therefore failed to adhere to the requirement of the Code of Conduct that a Councillor should always treat people with respect.

Sanctions

The Panel felt that Councillor Mrs Bromley should apologise in writing to Ms Turpin, Mr Leach, Mr Coker, the Chief Executive, Mr Elliott and the Members of Standards Committee through the Chairman.