Standards Committee

Draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25 February 2020 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00pm.

Present: Councillor Noone (Chairman); Councillors; Bartlett, A Dearing, K Dickson, Margrave, Morris and Syson.

Officers: Mrs L Dury (Principal Committee Services Officer); and Mr A Jones (Deputy Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer).

9. **Apologies and Substitutes**

(a) Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Dearing, Weber and Independent Person, Mr R Tomkinson.
(b) Councillor Syson substituted for Councillor C Gifford.

10. **Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

It was proposed by Councillor Morris, duly seconded by Councillor Syson; and

Resolved that Councillor Bartlett be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the municipal year.

11. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

12. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2019 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The Committee noted the death of Mr R Meacham in 2019, who had been a long-serving Independent Person to the Standards Committee.

The Deputy Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer informed the Committee that the process to find more people to serve as Independent Persons to the Committee had been delayed because of the December 2019 General Election, which had taken precedence. The process to find two Independent Persons was now in progress.

13. **Dispensation for Councillors**

The Committee considered a report from the Deputy Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer which sought dispensation for Councillors Boad and B Gifford allowing them to speak and or vote on a matter in which they both had a disclosable pecuniary interest in any discussions and decisions concerning the future of Leamington Town Hall.

It was officers' view that it was reasonable and proportionate to allow Councillors Boad and Gifford to partake of discussions and decisions in this

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matter as failure to grant dispensations would deprive the Councillors' electorate an informed "voice".

Appendix A to the report gave an explanation and terms of reference for making an application for a dispensation.

In response to a question from Councillor Dickson, the Deputy Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer explained that similar dispensation would be sought for Members who had disclosable pecuniary interests on other Council properties such as Jubilee House in Kenilworth.

Resolved that dispensation be granted to Councillors Boad and Gifford until elections for the Council in May 2023, allowing them to both speak and vote in relation to the following matter of the District Council:

(i) to take part and vote in any discussions and decisions concerning the future of Leamington Town Hall.

(The meeting ended at 6.09 pm)

CHAIRMAN

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