

# **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**22 JULY 2020**

**Present:**

Councillors Keeling (Chairman), Haines, Nuttall and Peart

**Members in Attendance:**

Councillors Daws and Mullone

**Apologies:**

Councillors Bullivant and L Petherick

**Officers in Attendance:**

Karen Trickey, Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer

Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Team Leader & Deputy Monitoring Officer

Paul Woodhead, Solicitor & Deputy Monitoring Officer

**Also in Attendance:**

Independents Persons – Mr Barnicott and Ms Smith

Parish Representative – Cllr Dowding (non-voting)

Investigator – Mr Darsley

## **12. APOLOGIES**

Councillor L Petherick gave her apologies.

Councillor Bullivant gave his apologies as he had a personal interest.

## **13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **14. STANDARDS COMPLAINT**

The Committee considered the published report in line with the procedure set out in the agenda.

Attached is the You Tube stream of the meeting [Standards Committee 22 July 2020](#)

The Committee resolved to go into confidential session to consider the Investigator's recommendations regarding the alleged breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct.

**RESOLVED:**

Having made a finding of facts as set out in its Decision Notice, the Committee concludes that Cllr Mullone breached the Members' Code of Conduct as provided for in the Decision Notice and that

- (a) It is appropriate to publicly censure Cllr Mullone for the conduct which is detailed in the Report and has been upheld by this Committee. Consequently, the decision notice on this matter is published.
- (b) Cllr Mullone is requested to write within 10 working days of this decision being notified to him, an unequivocal letter of apology (the content of such to be approved in advance by the Monitoring Officer and Chairman of Standards Committee) to those officers to whom the Committee has found he was disrespectful.
- (c) The Committee sends a letter to all staff within the Council making it clear that staff are not expected to tolerate disrespectful behaviour, intimidation or bullying conduct by councillors towards staff and that any concerns can be reported in confidence for action.
- (d) It be noted that if the Committee had the power to suspend Cllr Mullone from being a councillor, the Committee would have suspended Cllr Mullone for up to 6 months.

*Decision notice attached.*

The meeting started at 10.30 am and finished at 12.17 pm.

Chairman