

SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

APPOINTMENT, MANAGEMENT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING

4 FEBRUARY 2020

Held at the South Downs Centre, Midhurst at 14.30hrs

Present: Margaret Paren, Ian Phillips Janet Duncton

SDNPA Officers: Trevor Beattie (Chief Executive), Robin Parr (Head of Governance) Louise Read (Monitoring Officer)

Also Present: Sarah Harvey (Independent Advisor)

ITEM 1: Apologies for Absence

1. There were none.

ITEM 2: Declarations of Interest

2. There were none

ITEM 3: Urgent Matters

3. There were none

ITEM 4: Exclusion of Press and Public

4. It was proposed and seconded in respect of **Agenda Items 7& 8** that the public, including the press, should be excluded from the meeting on the basis that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if a member of the public were present during the items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, being information relating to any individual, and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exempt information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out.
5. **RESOLVED:** That the Committee move into private session for agenda items 5, 6 & 7 and exclude any members of the public and press from the meeting.

ITEM 5: Public Participation

6. There was no public participation.

ITEM 6: Revised Member Code of Conduct

7. The Monitoring officer outlined proposed changes to the Member Code of Conduct arising from a recent review of the code. The changes had been informed by the publication of a report by the Committee on standards in Public life (CPSL) and a new code of conduct for secretary of state appointed members published by the Cabinet Office.
8. Members commented that this may result in more occasions when they may have to leave the meeting due to an interest, and it was noted that whilst the new code of conduct may result in this, it was a requirement of the Cabinet office code, and there had been only a few instances in the past where this type of interest had arisen.
9. Members were also advised of the proposed response to the CPSL report set out in the report. it was requested that additional information be sought as to how other National Park Authorities were approaching recommendation 3 of the CPSL report and further explanation of recommendation 5 should be provided when the report is submitted to the NPA.

10. **RESOLVED:** The Committee agreed to request that the Authority

1. Agree the revised Member Code of Conduct set out in Appendix 1 and delegate authority to the Chief Executive to publicise the revised Code in such manner as he considers is likely to bring it to the attention of people who live in the South Downs National Park.
2. Agree the Authority's position and proposed actions in response to the Committee on Standards in Public Life report "Local Government Ethical Standards" as set out at para 3.5
3. Agree the revised Indemnity for Members and Officers, set out in Appendix 3, which has been amended to make express reference to Independent Persons and Co-opted Members.

11. At this juncture the committee moved into private session

Chair:

Signed: _____