

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Standards Committee held at County Hall, Usk,
on Friday 7th March 2014 at 10.30 a.m.**

PRESENT:

Mrs P Reeves (Chairman)
County Councillors D. Edwards, D. Evans and P. Jordan

INDEPENDENT REPRESENTATIVES:

Mr T. Auld, Mr G. Preece and Mr. M. Sutton

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Mr. S.M.W. Andrews- Monitoring Officer
Mrs. S. King - Democratic Services Officer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from County Councillor R.P. Jordan and Mr. T. Auld.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

County Councillor D. Evans declared a personal and prejudicial interest, pursuant to the members' code of conduct, in relation to item 6 as a member of Caldicot Town Council. Councillor Evans left the meeting whilst the item was considered.

3. MINUTES

We resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

The Monitoring Officer presented the following reports, for information:

i) IRPW SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT ON CO-OPTEDS

We received a Supplementary Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales in accordance with Section 147 of the Local Government Measure (Wales) 2011. The report related to payments made to co-opted members of Principal Authorities, National Park Authorities and Fire and Rescue Authorities, who have the right to vote.

The committee were invited to indicate whether a meeting is a full or half day, for payment purposes. Guidance was requested in relation to preparation issues and an indication of time planned for the meeting.

During discussion we noted the following points:

**Minutes of the Standards Committee
Friday 7th March 2014 at 10.30 a.m.**

- The general consensus was that members required 2/3 hours to prepare for a meeting, but, some meetings required additional time or a half day.
- The Monitoring Officer advised that it would be difficult for the length of a meeting (full or half day) to be specified in advance, however, it was recognised that meetings to consider hearings would take more preparation time.
- It was noted that the issue was being discussed across Wales and the Chairman welcomed views from others.

We noted the report.

ii) APW ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

We received the Adjudication Panel for Wales Annual Report, which reviewed the work of the panel during the financial year 2012-13.

We noted the report.

5. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

We resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 12 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

6. SHORTLIST COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEMBER

We considered applications for the Community Committee member and agreed a shortlist for interview.

7. READMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

We resolved that the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting for the following item of business as it did not involve the likely disclosure of exempt information in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972.

8. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

We agreed that the date and time of the next meeting would be **Monday 9th June 2014 at 10.30am.**

The committee thanked the Monitoring Officer for his support and wished him well for his retirement.

The meeting ended at 12.30pm