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MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Standards Committee held
on Monday, 27th November, 2017 at 10.00 am**

PRESENT: County Councillors: D. Evans, J.Pratt, S. Woodhouse,

T. Auld (Independent Representative)
M. Sutton (Independent Representative),
R. McGonigle (Independent Representative)
R. Stow (Independent Representative)
I. Cameron (Community Representative)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Robert Tranter	Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Nicola Perry	Senior Democracy Officer
John Pearson	Local Democracy Manager

APOLOGIES:

G. Preece (Independent Representative)

1. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

2. To receive the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of Standards Committee held on 25th September 2017 were approved and signed by the Chair.

The Monitoring Officer updated Members on the dispensation granted at the meeting and advised that Rogiet Community Council, which had proved successful.

3. Councillor Training Records

The Monitoring Officer provided an update of training undertaken by Members.

We heard that Members had been involved in an intense induction programme following the May 2017 election. A refresher training session on Code of Conduct was to be arranged.

Feedback from Members:

There may have been a case of 'too much too soon' but this was difficult to avoid given the calendar of meetings.

The training had not been basic enough, and new Members struggle to identify main objectives.

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A tour of the building would have been useful.

A speed reading course would be beneficial to make effective use of time.

The Local Democracy Manager stated that a review would be held in the new-year to identify areas to address going forward.

The introduction of remote attendance should provide everyone the opportunity to attend sessions. It was recommended that a survey include the evaluation of IT and software.

Following discussion the Committee resolved to note the content of the attached training record.

4. Constitution Update

The Monitoring Officer presented a report to ensure the Standards Committee is aware of the proposed changes to the Council's constitution.

The areas of change were highlighted and explained in detail to the Committee.

Members discussed the introduction of remote attendance.

The Scheme of Delegation for Planning had been changed in accordance with legislative changes, and the changes would be highlighted for the next meeting.

We noted behaviour around live streaming was not in the Constitution, and this should be monitored by the meeting chairs.

Members were welcome to attend meetings to obtain an overview, or view online.

It was suggested that an email to all Members be issued recommending viewing this meeting ahead of the report going to full Council.

The Committee resolved to accept the report.

5. To note the date and time of next meeting as Monday 19th March 2018 at 10am

We noted the date of the next meeting as Monday 19th March 2018 at 10am.

The meeting ended at Time Not Specified