



GREAT YARMOUTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

A G E N D A

for the

COUNCIL

19 February 2009

at 7.00 pm

**LARGER PRINT COPY AVAILABLE
PLEASE TELEPHONE: 01493 846325**

COUNCIL

To be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Great Yarmouth
on Thursday, 19 February 2009 at 7.00 pm

A G E N D A

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

You have a **PERSONAL INTEREST** in a matter being discussed at a meeting IF

- It relates to something on your Register of Interests form; or
- A decision on it would affect you, your family or friends more than other people in your Ward.

You have a **PREJUDICIAL INTEREST** in a matter being discussed at a meeting IF

- It affects your financial position or that of your family or friends more than other people in your Ward; or
- It concerns a planning or licensing application you or they have submitted
- **AND IN EITHER CASE** a reasonable member of the public would consider it to be so significant that you could not reach an unbiased decision.

If your interest is only **PERSONAL**, you must declare it but can still speak and vote. If your interest is **PREJUDICIAL**, you must leave the room. However, you have the same rights as a member of the public to address the meeting before leaving.

1. MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 8 January 2009.

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

To consider any questions raised by a member of the public. No questions have been received to date.

3. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

... The Monitoring Officer's report is attached (pages 1-2).

4. REPORTS TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION

(a) Mayor 2009/10

On reference from Cabinet of the 21 January 2009, Council is recommended to agree that Councillor Anthony Thomas Smith be appointed as Mayor of the Borough of Great Yarmouth for the Municipal Year 2009/10.

(b) Amendment to the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (LDF)

To consider the report of the Head of Planning and Development attached to the agenda for Cabinet of 18 February 2009.

(c) Medium Term Financial Strategy 2009/10 to 2011/12

To consider the report of the Head of Financial Services attached to Additional Papers (1) for Cabinet of 18 February 2009.

(d) Capital Programme and Prudential Indicators 2009/10

To consider the report of the Head of Financial Services attached to Additional Papers (1) for Cabinet of 18 February 2009.

(e) Treasury Management Strategy 2009/10

To consider the report of the Head of Financial Services attached to Additional Papers (1) for Cabinet of 18 February 2009.

(f) Budget 2009/10 to 2011/12 and Council Tax 2009/10

To consider the report of the Head of Financial Services attached to Additional Papers (1) for Cabinet of 18 February 2009.

(g) Housing Revenue Account Budget Estimates 2009/10

To consider the report of the Director of Community Housing attached to the agenda for Cabinet of 18 February 2009.

(h) Housing Major Works Programme 2009/10 to 2012/13

To consider the report of the Director of Community Housing attached to the agenda for Cabinet of 18 February 2009.

(NB: Members are asked to bring their copies of the reports referred to in (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h) to the meeting.)

5. **MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

(i) **Council – 8 January 2009**

... The Mayor will present the above minutes (pages 3-7, White Paper).

(ii) **Cabinet – 21 January and 18 February 2009**

... The Leader will present the above minutes. Minutes of 21 January attached (pages 8-10, Cream Paper), and minutes of 18 February to be tabled at the meeting.

(iii) **Scrutiny Committee – 14 January 2009**

... The Chairman will present the above minutes (pages 11-14, Pink Paper).

(iv) **Audit and Risk Committee – 16 February 2009**

The Chairman will present the above minutes which will be tabled at the meeting.

6. **REPORT OF LEADER ON URGENT KEY DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING WHICH WERE NOT IN THE FORWARD PLAN**

The Leader will report.

* * * * *

Subject: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Report to: Council – 19 February 2009

Report by: Monitoring Officer

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the report be noted.

1. In December 2006 the Standards Committee agreed to produce an Annual Report to the Council on the work it has carried out. This is the second such Annual Report.
2. 2008 was a particularly busy year for Committee members, as the arrangements for handling complaints at a local level were introduced in May. The main Committee met five times during the year. It
 - 2.1 considered dispensation applications from Parish Councillors from Hopton, Burgh Castle, Belton and Filby, allowing them to speak and vote on matters in which they had a prejudicial interest
 - 2.2 reviewed the effectiveness of the Code of Conduct and Register of Gifts and Hospitality
 - 2.3 recommended to the full Council appointments to the two independent member vacancies, and one parish council vacancy, on the Committee
 - 2.4 received training on the new arrangements for handling complaints locally
 - 2.5 adopted criteria for determining when complaints should be investigated
 - 2.6 appointed an Assessment Sub-Committee (to assess complaints initially) and a Review Sub-Committee (to consider reviews of Assessment Su0Committee decisions)

2.7 was consulted on proposed changes to the Code of Conduct

2.8 arranged a refresher training session on the Code of Conduct for Borough and Parish Councillors in July.

3. The Assessment Sub-Committee met on five occasions in the year and considered complaints that two Parish Councillors and eight Borough Councillors had breached the Code of Conduct. The complaints against the two Parish Councillors were referred for investigation and the complaint against one of the Borough Councillors was similarly referred. These investigations are on-going. At the request of the Sub-Committee a letter was written to one of the Borough Councillors reminding him of the need for caution when speaking in public. No action was taken in respect of the other complaints. The Review Sub-Committee met on two occasions to review some of the "no action" decisions. This area of the Committee's work has exceeded expectations.

Dept Reference: CFS/JB - W:\Central services\Legal Services\Legal\C F Skinner\Committee Admin\Report to Council 19.02.09 - Annual Report of the Standards Committee.doc

Date: 29 January 2009

Background Papers: File 1/9/1/A and 1/9/1/B

Does this report raise any legal, financial, sustainability, equality, Crime and Disorder or Human Rights issues and, if so, have they been considered?	Issues	
	Legal	✓
	Financial	x
	Sustainability	x
	Equality	x
	Crime and Disorder	x
	Human Rights	x