

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

14th March 2023

A meeting of the Audit & Standards Committee was held on Tuesday, 14 March 2023 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton.

Present

Councillor R Baxter Payne – Chair

Councillors: T.Cooper, L. Cvetkovik, L. Downs, M. Green, J Sheppard (Vice- Chair), R. Tromans, S. Harbison (substitution for Councillor J. Hartshorn) and N. Phillips.

Apologies: Councillors B. Beetham, J. Hartshorn and J. Kennaugh.

PART I – PUBLIC BUSINESS

ASC36 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 10th January 2023 and the Extraordinary meeting held on 31st January 2023, be confirmed, and signed by the Chair.

ASC37 **Declarations of Interest**

As a substitute Councillor for this meeting, the Declarations of Interest for Councillor S. Harbison were not detailed in the Schedule attached to the agenda.

RESOLVED that the declarations of interest are as set out in the Schedule attached to these minutes, with the addition of the Declarations of Interest for Councillor S. Harbison.

ASC38 **Internal Audit Plan 2023 - 24**

A report of the Head of Audit and Governance provided the Committee with a report setting out the proposed Internal Audit Plan for 2023-24.

Public Speakers: Mr P. Smith and Councillor K. Kondakor

RESOLVED that the Internal Audit Plan be approved.

ASC39 **Recommendations from the Constitution Review Working Party**

A report of the Director for Planning and Regulation provided the Committee with the opportunity to consider and approve the recommendations from the Constitution Review Working Party, and recommend changes to the Constitution.

Public Speakers: Mr P. Smith and Councillor K. Kondakor.

RESOLVED that

- a) the decision about minor and major developments be deferred back to the Constitution Review Working Party;
- b) the wording about decisions being made at the discretion of the 'Chair or Vice-Chair' be changed to 'Chair *and* Vice-Chair';

- c) a change in wording be made to confirm the Chair has the discretion to increase the numbers of speakers of a Planning Application as required; and
- d) contact details of speakers be requested.

ASC40 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

RESOLVED that under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, it being likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph (i) and (ii) of Part I and II of Schedule 12A to the Act.

ASC41 **Complaints Against Members: 20th August 2022 to 28th February 2023**

A report of the Monitoring Officer provided the Committee with details of complaints against Members received from 20th August 2022 to 28th February 2023.

Public Speaker: Councillor K. Kondakor.

RESOLVED that

- a) the report be noted; and
- b) consideration be given by the Constitution Review Working Party about the publication of censures on individual Councillors pages on the NBBC website.

Chair _____

Audit and Standards Committee - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2022/2023

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	General dispensations granted to all members under s.33 of the Localism Act 2011			Granted to all members of the Council in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing matters - Statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 - An allowance, payment given to members - An indemnity given to members - Any ceremonial honour given to members - Setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 - Planning and Licensing matters - Allotments - Local Enterprise Partnership
	R. Baxter-Payne (Chair)	Manager Brinklow Quarry Ltd, Brinklow; County Councillor - WCC	Spouse: Self-employed childminder Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands Combined Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee • Warwickshire Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (substitute) 	
	B. Beetham	Employed at The George Eliot Hospital; Warwickshire County Council – Camp Hill	Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Hill Urban Village: Pride in Camp Hill Board • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground 	
	T. Cooper	None	Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Hill Urban Village: Pride in Camp Hill Board • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground 	
	L. Cvetkovic	Head of Geography	The Bulkington Volunteers	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
		(Teacher), Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry	(Founder); Bulkington Sports and Social Club (Trustee) Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Control Partnership Steering Group 	
	L. Downs	River Bars Limited; Coventry Plus Beyond the Plane	Member on the following Outside Body: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hammersley, Smith and Orton Charity 	
	M. Green	Employed by Horiba Mira – Calibration Technician	Chair of Education Standards Committee – St Thomas More School Executive Member – Nuneaton Conservatives. President – St Vincent De Paul Society at Our Lady of the Angels Church. Our Lady of the Angels Church Member of the George Eliot Fellowship. Member of the Nuneaton Education Strategy Board Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship Project for Children. 	
	J. Hartshorn	Employed by Asda Nuneaton	Member of Nuneaton Conservatives	
	J. Kennaugh	County Councillor W.C.C. Employed by FedEx Express UK Limited.	Member of the W.C.C. Regulatory Committee Member of the Conservative Party Member of UNITE the Union Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EQUIP 	
	N. Phillips	Employee of DWP	Member of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Labour CLP • The Fabian Society • The George Eliot Society • The PCS Union • Central Credit Union • Stockingford Sports and Allotment Club • Haunchwood Sports and Social Club 	
	J. Sheppard (Vice-Chair)		Partnership member of the Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local. Director of Wembrook Community Centre.	Dispensation to speak and vote on any matters of Borough Plan that relate to the Directorship of Wembrook Community Centre

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			Member of the Management Committee at the Mental Health Drop-in.	
	R. Tromans	RTC, Nuneaton AFL, Wellingborough	W.C.C. Warwick Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Neighbourhood Watch Committee Hospice Charity	