

HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on 11 October 2017

Present

Councillor Briggs (Chairman)

Councillors Bains, Bowerman, Pike, Guest and Wilson

31 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Turner.

32 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 11 September 2017 were approved as a correct record.

33 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

34 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

35 Chairman's Report

There were no matters the Chairman wished to report.

36 Cabinet Lead Delegated Decisions, Minutes from Meetings etc.

RESOLVED that the following be noted:

- (1) Minutes of the meeting of the Portchester Crematorium Joint Committee held on 18 September 2017; and
- (2) Standing Order 48 – Special Urgent Matters – Civica System Hosting Arrangements.

37 Gifts and Hospitality Policy for Councillors

Councillor Bowerman presented a report to Cabinet setting out an updated policy on Councillors receiving Gifts and Hospitality. The new policy reflected Government guidance in relation to the 2010 Bribery Act and was set in the context of the commercial environment in which local authorities now operated.

The new policy was intended to give clarity to Councillors as to when gifts and/or hospitality may be accepted in their capacity as a member of the Council and where, in doing so, there would be a benefit to the Council.

All Councillors were to be reminded of the need to declare all gifts and hospitality in line the procedures set out in the report and to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer in any case of doubt.

RESOLVED that the updated Gifts and Hospitality Policy for Councillors be approved and adopted.

38 Complaints and Vexatious Complaints Policy and Procedure

Councillor Bowerman presented a report to Cabinet setting out an updated Complaints policy and incorporating vexatious complaints. The new policy reflected consultations with the Local Government Ombudsman and sought to reduce the amount of officer time spent on dealing with excessive and/or unreasonable complaints.

The Monitoring Officer clarified that the policy would not apply to individual Freedom of Information requests that these would continue to be dealt with on a case by case basis.

RESOLVED that the updated Complaints and Vexatious Complaints policy and procedure be approved and adopted.

The meeting commenced at 5.00 pm and concluded at 5.24 pm

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Chairman