

Agenda Item 8 – Standing Order 14D – Code of Conduct

Agenda Item 8a & 8b – To review the Code of Conduct decision regarding Councillor Taylor & To consider if any course of action should be taken against Councillor Taylor

Councillor Taylor had a code of conduct complaint made against him for ‘staying in a meeting and participating in votes on matters relating to Layham Road Sports Ground development’ when he was a board member of Hadleigh Rugby Club who would be one of the main prospective users of the new pavilion.

Councillor Taylor has always declared an interest in all subjects related to Hadleigh Rugby Club and had on some occasions remained in the room and voted and on other occasions had abstained from voting and on the last occasion had left the room.

The Monitoring Officer upheld the complaint and stated that Councillor Taylor should have left the meeting whenever a matter was discussed that directly affected the financial wellbeing or the wellbeing of Hadleigh Rugby Club.

The sanction is to undertake further Code of Conduct training within 60 days of the decision.

Councillor Taylor was booked on a course shortly after the decision was made but this was postponed through lack of take up but has recently been rescheduled to October.

Standing Order 14D says:

- d. Upon notification by the District Council that a councillor or non-councillor with voting rights has breached the Council’s code of conduct, the Council shall consider what, if any, action to take against him. Such action excludes disqualification or suspension from office.**

Councillors should consider what, if any, action to take against Councillor Taylor.

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### **Agenda Item 8c & 8d - To review the Code of Conduct decision regarding Councillor Loftus & To consider if any course of action should be taken against Councillor Loftus**

Councillor Loftus had a code of conduct complaint made against him as it was felt that he ‘would have more of an interest in an item to discuss a contribution to the cost of reconstruction of a lay-by on Angel Street than other Councillors and members of the public as he lives there and should not have taken part having acknowledged that he has an interest’

Councillor Loftus declared an interest in this item and took part in the discussion and voted.

The Monitoring Officer upheld the complaint and stated that Councillor Loftus should not have taken part in the discussion and vote and should have left the meeting when this item was discussed.

The sanction is to undertake further Code of Conduct training within 3 months of the decision.

Standing Order 14D says:

- d. Upon notification by the District Council that a councillor or non-councillor with voting rights has breached the Council’s code of conduct, the Council shall consider what, if any, action to take against him. Such action excludes disqualification or suspension from office.**

Councillors should consider what, if any, action to take against Councillor Loftus.