

Standards Committee, 16 April 2019

Item 8- Code of Conduct complaints update

This paper provides an update for the Committee on Code related cases since the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019:

Case #	TC/PC or EDDC member	Relevant paragraphs in Code of Conduct and outcome following consultation with Independent Person	Detail of complaint
2018-C02	Parish Councillor	Complaint regarding the lack of courtesy and respect shown to others. 4a – you must treat others with courtesy and respect <b>Complaint withdrawn. Case closed.</b>	Failed to treat the complainant with courtesy and respect by using foul and abusive language and making untrue remarks against the complainants actions and character.
2018-C03	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding the lack of courtesy and respect shown to others. Relevant paragraph of the code; 4a – you must treat others with courtesy and respect. <b>Informal Resolution – apology sent. Case closed.</b>	Failed to treat the complainants with courtesy and respect by not controlling his temper and brought a personal issue directed at how people feel about their business which he had no right to do.
2018-C04	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding the lack of courtesy and respect shown to others. Relevant paragraph of the code; 4a – you must treat other with courtesy and respect 5h – you must not conduct yourself in a manner or behave in such a way so as to give a reasonable person the impression that you have brought your office into disrepute. <b>Resignation received. Case closed.</b>	Failed to treat the complainant with courtesy and respect by acting in a rude and aggressive manner towards an employee.

2018-C05	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding the lack of courtesy and respect shown to others. Relevant paragraph of the code; 4a – you must treat other with courtesy and respect. <b>No supporting evidence provided. Case closed.</b>	Failed to treat the complainant with courtesy and respect by not giving a formal apology to an employee about their conduct.
2018-C06	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding the lack of courtesy and respect shown to others. <b>Finding of no breach. Case closed.</b>	Failed to treat the complainant with courtesy and respect by arranging an unrecorded disciplinary meeting with the complainant and the Clerk
2018-C07	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding the lack of courtesy and respect shown to others. <b>Informal resolution - apology given. Case closed.</b>	Failed to treat the complainant with courtesy and respect by reading out an anonymous letter at a council meeting which criticised the complainant and other councillor's actions. The complainant had not been informed of this letter in advance of the meeting.
2018-C08	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding the lack of courtesy and respect shown to others <b>Complaint withdrawn. Case closed.</b>	Failed to treat the complainant with courtesy and respect by not providing a written response to the complainant about a statement made at an Extraordinary Meeting.
2018-C09	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding the lack of courtesy and respect shown to others. <b>Complaint withdrawn. Case closed.</b>	Failed to treat the complainant with courtesy and respect by implying the complainant was involved in financial irregularities.
2019-C01	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failing to promote and support high standards of conduct,</li> <li>- It failed to treat others with respect,</li> <li>- It could not be justified to the public,</li> <li>- Brought office into disrepute</li> </ul> <b>Breach found – formal apology and censure. Case closed.</b>	Tweet posted criticising a business for bad mouthing the individual and requesting the public not to use it.

2019-C02	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding failure to disclose DPI (linked to C03). <b>Investigated, no breach found. Case closed</b>	Allegation that councillor failed to disclose DPI in respect of their involvement in a Limited Company.
2019-C03	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding failure to disclose DPI in respect of partner's involvement in a Limited Company (linked to C02). <b>Investigated minimal breach of failure to disclose a personal interest found. No further action and case closed.</b>	Allegation that councillor failed to disclose DPI in respect of their partner's involvement in a Limited Company.
2019-C04	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding failure to treat member of the public with courtesy and respect. <b>Awaiting discussion with subject member to explore behaviour.</b>	Allegation regarding conduct in a meeting.
2019-C05	Town Councillor	Complaint that councillor didn't treat employee with courtesy and respect and bullied and harassed them. <b>Awaiting more information from complainant</b>	During the course of employment the councillor continually harassed and bullied the individual by making disparaging comments and undermining their work. Also didn't treat them with courtesy and respect in front of others.
2019-C06	Town Councillor	Complaint regarding failure to treat member of the public with courtesy and respect. <b>Awaiting further information and discussion with subject member</b>	Allegation regarding conduct in a meeting.
2019-C07	District Councillor?	Complaint that councillor was <b>Awaiting determination on whether subject member was acting in official capacity</b>	Allegation regarding conduct in a meeting in that they used a bullying tone and made frequent interruptions and dominated the discussion.

Complainants who have made more than 2 complaints

None

Subject Members who are subject to more than 2 complaints

2018-C08 & 2018-C09

An update for the Committee on Non-Code related cases since the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018 to date:

Case #	TC/PC or EDDC member	Details of non-code complaint	Outcome
2018-NC6	Parish Council	Complaint regarding how the parish council conduct their meetings and also the conduct of their clerk.	The complainant was advised the parish council was a sovereign body and their actions could only be challenged in a court. The actions of the clerk did not fall under the MO jurisdiction.