# **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

# Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2017 at 7.00 pm in Council Chamber, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

Present: Councillors Buckley, Dexter, Johnston, Tomlinson and S Piper

Parish Councillor Wright (Birchington)

# 130. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mrs Bacon and Councillors Braidwood, Fairbrass and Way.

# 131. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

# 132. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by Councillor Johnston, seconded by Councillor Tomlinson and AGREED that the minutes of the meeting of 13 September 2016 were a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

#### 133. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN LETTER 2016

The Committee noted the Local Government Ombudsman's Letter 2016.

#### 134. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN LETTER 2017

The Committee noted the Local Government Ombudsman's Letter 2017.

#### 135. SUPPORT TO TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer, outlined his report.

The Chairman précised suggestions made by the Committee for how Town and Parish Councils could be supported in the future:

- Support/facilitate training for new Members in collaboration with Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) with a focus on Member behaviour, relationships and governance.
- Support/facilitate opportunities for mentoring and informal exchange of ideas between councils.

It was agreed that an update would be brought to a future meeting of the Standards Committee.

#### 136. <u>REPORT ON RECENT CASE LAW</u>

Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer, outlined his report.

The Committee noted the report.

#### 137. STANDARDS COMPLAINT STATISTICS

Meeting concluded : 8.05pm