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STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2019 at 7.00 pm in Council Chamber, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

Present: Dr Jonathan Sexton (Independent Chairman); Mrs Janet Bacon (Independent Vice Chairman)

Councillors: Braidwood, Dexter, Jaye-Jones, Johnston, Tomlinson and Crow-Brown

Parish Councillors: Way (Monkton Parish Council) and Quittenden (Minster Parish Council)

In Attendance: Councillor Shonk

167. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor J Fairbrass for whom Councillor Crow-Brown was present.

168. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

169. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Councillor Tomlinson proposed, Councillor Crow-Brown seconded and Members agreed the minutes were a correct record of the meeting held on 12 February 2019.

170. CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman presented his annual report.

Members made the following comments:

- Concerns were raised about the Standards complaints about Members' use of social media and the public perception of individual Members' posts representing their council's views.

The Committee noted the report.

171. REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ETHICAL STANDARDS

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

Members expressed support for changes proposed in the report produced by the Committee on Standards in Public Life, particularly the strengthening of sanctions.

The Committee noted the report on Local Government Ethical Standards.

172. STANDARDS COMPLAINT STATISTICS

The Committee noted the Standards complaint statistics.

Meeting concluded : 7.50pm