



Rugeley Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of Rugeley Town Council held at the Rugeley Town Council Offices,
Taylor's Lane, Rugeley, at 8:00 pm Wednesday 2 April 2014.

PRESENT: Councillors: R. Alexander Mrs A. Allt
 Mrs P. Ansell J. Bowater
 D. Gaye M. Grocott
 R. Jones G. Martin
 J. Martin J. Rowley (Chair)
 H. Southwell G. Grant
 J. Johnson R. Jones

ALSO PRESENT: Miss N. Somani – Town Clerk

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors P. Emery, T. Jones, A. Wilkinson and P. Williams.

2. Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

3. Minutes

Members were presented with the minutes of the meeting from 5 March 2014. Councillor N. Stanley advised that he had been asked to read out a letter in view of the minutes from 5 March 2014 on behalf of Councillor P. Williams. The letter was addressed to the Chairman of the Council.

Councillor Stanley read out the letter which advised that Councillor P. Williams wished to dispute the minutes of the full Council on 5th March 2014, page 2 - item 7, 'in line with section 77 of the Councils standing orders.' The letter continued to advise that the minutes referred to a meeting of the Council held on 12th September 2012 which stated that the standing orders had been adopted by Council, the letter advised that this was incorrect.

In the letter Councillor P. Williams stated that she had the correct/original copy of the minutes from the meeting of 12th September 2012 in which the code of conduct was adopted by Council and there was no mention of the standing orders. Therefore the minutes of the 12 September 2012 had been altered to include the standing orders which, in law was considered fraud. In view of this it was requested by

Councillor P. Williams that the minutes are not accepted as it would be considered collusion with a fraudulent act.

After reading the letter to Members in the meeting Councillor N. Stanley added that he had not signed the minutes of 12th September 2012 and raised further concerns about the conduct stating that it was a criminal offence that would involve a police investigation. Councillor N. Stanley continued to advise that he had no knowledge of the Council having standing orders or adopting any such document since his time on the Council.

Councillor M. Grocott added that he had been approached by Councillor P. Williams regarding the minutes but was unaware that the matter was going to be raised at the meeting. He added that he had a copy of the minutes that Councillor P. Williams had referred to in her letter from 12 September 2012 that did not include details of the standing orders.

It was suggested that the Chairman needed to seek legal advice on this immediately and provide a way forward. It was thought that the meeting should be adjourned until legal advice had been received.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting whilst the administration spoke to the Clerk on the options.

On returning to the meeting the Chairman advised that they would adjourn the meeting in view of seeking legal advice in to the comments that had been made.

Councillor J. Bowater proposed that he meeting be adjourned to seek legal advice, this was seconded by Councillor G. Martin and unanimously agreed.

Resolved: That

- [1] the meeting be adjourned in order for the Chairman of the Council to seek legal advice on the letter presented by Councillor N. Stanley on behalf of Councillor P. William.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 20:30 p.m.

Signed: 

Date: