

Clowne Parish Council

Minutes of Committee Meeting

	Meeting Type	Complaints Committee
	Date of Meeting	Friday 10 th September 2021
	Council Meeting Start Time	6pm
	Meeting Venue	Council Chamber Bolsover District Council The ARC High Street Clowne S43 4JY
	In Attendance	Councillors A. Bailey, D. Dixon, M. Dixon, S. Gregory, N. Hoy, M. Hoy, G. Hughes, J. Woods, N. Yewman There were no members of the public present.

Minute Number	Order of Business	Resolution	Decision
13/21	Apologies for Absence Councillor B. Bosworth – prior engagement Councillor R. Walker – health related	It was moved by Councillor Yewman and seconded by Councillor D. Dixon that apologies for absence be approved.	Agreed All in favour
14/21	Confirmation that Attendance Register has been signed	The Clerk confirmed that the Attendance Register had been signed by all present.	
15/21	Notification of Unregistered Declarations of Pecuniary Interest	None received	N/A
16/21	Notification of Consideration of a Dispensation	None received	N/A
17/21	Confidential Business The Clerk recommended that Complaint References 11/04/21-CPC- SS, 08-04-21 CPC -JJ and 26/07/21-CPC-SS be considered as confidential items due to the prejudicial nature of the business being considered.	It was moved by Councillor Yewman and seconded by Councillor D. Dixon that Complaint Reference 11/04/21-CPC-SS, 08-04-21 CPC -JJ and 26/07/21-CPC-SS be considered as confidential business.	Agreed All in Favour

<p>18/21</p>	<p>Report of the Investigating Officer in relation to Complaint Reference 11/04/21-CPC-SS</p> <p>The Clerk referred to the confidential report that had been circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that this matter had been discussed in detail at the Complaints Committee held on Friday 11th June 2021.</p> <p>This complaint related to an incident between a couple walking their two dogs off the lead on Villa Park at the same time as an under 12s football match was in progress.</p> <p>The report included a number of statements from both the complainants, club officials and spectators. No Council official was present at the time of the incident.</p> <p>The Committee had resolved at its 11th June meeting that the Clerk be instructed to write to both the Junior Football Club and the complainants about this matter and express the Council's concern about the behaviour of both the club and complainants in how this situation was handled and to remind the complainants that all dogs should be on a lead when being walked/ exercised on Villa Park especially when a junior football match was taking place.</p> <p>The Complainants have raised further complaints and appealed the original decision.</p> <p>The Council was presented with all the original and new email representations and statements received relating to this matter and the evidence was reviewed.</p>	<p>It was moved by Councillor D. Dixon and seconded by Councillor Yewman that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Complainants and advise that the appeal of the Council's decision made at the Complaints Committee meeting held on 11th June 2021 is not upheld and that there is no further right of appeal.</p>	<p>Agreed For 8 Abstained 1 Against 0</p>
--------------	--	--	---

	<p>The Clerk had tried, but had not been able, to contact the referee officiating the match at the time of the incident. It was reported by the Club that referee had stopped the game and spoken to the complainant at the time about the dog walking onto the pitch.</p> <p>The Clerk had eventually managed to track the match referee down to obtain a statement and he confirmed that a dog had entered the field of play and that in the interests of safety he had stopped the match so the dog could be removed.</p> <p>He also confirmed that he had spoken with the complainants at the time of the incident about this.</p> <p>A discussion took place and concern was raised about the behaviour of complainants following the Committees' 11th June 2021 decision and the tone of subsequent correspondence and contacting of individual Members following the decision made at that meeting.</p> <p>Members also referred to the Persistent and Vexatious Complainants Policy.</p>		
19/21	<p>To Consider the Report of the Investigating Officer in relation to Complaint Reference 08/04/21-CPC-JJ</p> <p>The Clerk advised that this complaint had been investigated independently by Janice Jackson who had been appointed by the Council as Investigating Officer following a complaint made by a Parishioner.</p> <p>An investigation report had been produced and circulated separately to Members by the Investigating Officer.</p>	<p>It was moved by Councillor Yewman and seconded by Councillor D. Dixon that the report be received and that no further action be taken.</p>	<p>Agreed All in Favour</p>

<p>Following a review of this complaint and the associated findings from the investigation the Committee had resolved to take no further action.</p> <p>The Complainant had appealed this decision and raised further related complaints.</p> <p>The Council reviewed all original documentation, the Investigating Officers' report and additional information from the complainant and Clerk for Consideration.</p> <p>The Clerk also referred to a Subject Access Request received from the Complainant asking for various documents.</p> <p>Members referred to the Persistent and Vexatious Complainants Policy and a discussion took place.</p> <p>Concern was raised by Members about the time and money that had been incurred in dealing with this matter to date and whether the actions of the complainant met the threshold as a vexatious or persistent complainant.</p> <p>Following discussion it was agreed to keep this matter under review for the next 6 months.</p>		
---	--	--