

## **MINUTES OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2010**

### **Present:**

#### **Councillors:**

T.W. Crabb

C.A. Davis

K.E. Flurry

A.P. Hirst

G.F. Trussler

#### **Independent members:**

Mr M. Litvak (Chairman)

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies received from the Vice Chairman, Miss Sue Faulkner and Councillor Mrs C.L. Spencer.

The Chairman of the Planning Committee, Councillor H.A. Thomson and Councillor Mrs M. Rough were in attendance

### **293/10 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2010 were approved as a correct record.

### **294/10 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

No disclosures were made.

### **295/10 REVIEW OF THE PLANNING CODE**

To assist the Committee with the review of the Planning Code the Chairman of the Planning Committee, Councillor H.A. Thomson, had been invited to attend and take part in the discussion. Councillor Mrs M. Rough attended as an observer.

The Committee continued its discussion on the review of the Planning Code.

To assist the Committee the Monitoring Officer had circulated with the agenda a copy of the Planning Code identifying the suggested changes made to date. The Committee discussed the document page by page and made comments for the Monitoring Officer to take on board and amend for further consideration.

In general terms the committee discussed the issue of public perception of all those involved in the planning process and the need to avoid the perception of pre determination whilst at the same time allowing full and frank debate of all planning applications. The committee also considered the two recommendations contained in the Trevor Roberts Associates report which were relevant to the Planning Code and covered:

- (1) Consider ceasing the pre committee meeting without officers; and
- (2) Amend the Planning Code to enable greater pre committee discussion between councillors and officers.

**RESOLVED** that the Monitoring Officer revise the Planning Code as indicated at the meeting and email the revisions to all members of the Standards Committee for final comments prior to the Planning Code being submitted to the Council meeting on 21 October 2010 for approval.