

Standards Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2024

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Please note these are draft minutes and will not be confirmed until the next meeting.

Present

Kevin Maguire – in the Chair, Harry Blathwayt, Stephen Bolt, and Tim Jickells.

In attendance

John Packman – Chief Executive, Lorraine Taylor – Governance Officer, and Sara Utting – Senior Governance Officer.

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014

The Chair explained that the meeting was being audio-recorded. All recordings remained the copyright of the Broads Authority and anyone wishing to receive a copy should contact the Governance Team. The minutes remained the record of the meeting. He added that the law permitted any person to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of public meetings of the Authority. This did not extend to live verbal commentary. The Chair needed to be informed if anyone intended to photograph, record or film so that any person under the age of 18 or members of the public not wishing to be filmed or photographed could be accommodated.

Apologies were received from Peter Dixon, Paul Hayden and Michael Scott.

2. Declarations of interest

Members indicated they had no further declarations of interest other than those already registered, and as set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes.

3. Items of urgent business

There were no items of urgent business.

4. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 07 March 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. Appointment of Independent Persons

Members received the report of the Senior Governance Officer (SGO) who explained that the Standards Committee was being asked to recommend the appointment of the Independent Persons to the Broads Authority who would then make the final decision. The SGO confirmed that Members had received the CV of Charles Monteith before the papers were published and subsequently received the CV of Hannah Brown which had been circulated to the Committee Members prior to the meeting. Therefore, the Committee had two candidates for consideration.

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In addition, the SGO asked Members to recommend the length of appointment of the Independent Persons. In the past appointments had been for 4 years to provide continuity, however, Members might wish to recommend an alternative length.

A Member said that he was pleased with the quality of the candidates. The SGO said that although there were no applications received during the recruitment process, it had been very beneficial working with North Norfolk District Council. The Chair said that he would like to formally record the Committee's thanks to North Norfolk District Council for their help.

A Member asked that, on the assumption that the Broads Authority appointed the two Independent Persons, could they both be invited to the next Standards Committee. The SGO agreed and said that it would be a good opportunity for both the Committee and the Independent Persons to meet. The Chair asked whether it would be possible for the Independent Persons to join via video link if they had to travel from outside of the county. The SGO confirmed that this would be possible.

The Chief Executive (CE) said that there would be an opportunity to invite the Independent Persons to other meetings such as a future Annual Site Visit to give them the opportunity to meet Members and officers, and to find out more about the Broads Authority and its work.

Tim Jickells proposed, seconded by Stephen Bolt.

It was resolved unanimously to recommend that the Broads Authority appoints Charles Monteith and Hannah Brown as the Authority's Independent Persons with effect from 26 July 2024 for a period of four years.

6. Other items of business

There were no other items of business.

The meeting ended at 12:38pm.

Signed by

Chairman

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Appendix 1 – Declaration of interests: Standards Committee, 21 June 2024

Member	Agenda/minute	Nature of interest
Harry Blathwayt	5	Had interviewed both applicants previously in his capacity as Chair of the Standards Committee at North Norfolk District Council

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