

DORSET COUNCIL DECISION NOTICE

Complaint Reference: 08/20

Subject Member: Cllr K Tippins of Shaftesbury Town Council

Date of Hearing: 26 February 2021

Audit and Governance (Hearing) Sub-Committee

1. Summary of the Complaint

The Complainant alleged that at a meeting of Shaftesbury Town Council on 18th February 2020 Cllr K Tippins did not look up at a presentation given by Champions Football Academy on behalf of Shaftesbury Football Club and sat with her back to it.

2. The Conduct of the Hearing

The conduct of the hearing is as detailed in the Audit and Governance (Hearing) Sub-Committee minutes, a copy of which are appended to (and forms part of) this Decision Notice. A recording of the hearing is available [click here](#)

3. The Hearing Sub-Committee's Decisions

3.1 The Hearing Sub-Committee's decisions are detailed in the appended minutes. However, the Hearing Sub-Committee's key conclusions are also set out below.

3.2 Members of the Sub-committee having reviewed the papers provided in the agenda pack and having listened very carefully to all of the comments made by all of the people taking part in the complaints, felt that, irrespective of the background, any visiting members of the public and other councillors deserved to be treated with respect. The Sub-committee felt that Cllr K Tippins fell somewhat short of what should have been expected.

3.3 It was agreed that the conduct of Cllr K Tippins amounted to a breach of the following provisions of the Shaftesbury Town Council Code of Conduct:

Section 2.1 (b):

"A Councillor must.... treat others with respect;"

Section 2.2 (g)

"A Councillor must not.... behave in a way which could reasonably be regarded as bringing their office or the Council into disrepute;"

3.4 The Sub-committee decided that informal resolution was an appropriate and proportionate response to the complaint.

3.5 It was agreed that Cllr K Tippins be required to write a full letter of apology to the person from the football club making the presentation.



Jonathan Mair
Monitoring Officer

Right of Appeal: There is no right of appeal against the decision of the Audit and Governance (Hearing) Sub-Committee.

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