

Meeting of: STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Date: 15 December 2005

Report of: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (CENTRAL SERVICES)

Reference: CDCS/HLS

Title: GRANTING OF DISPENSATIONS – THURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

PUBLIC/EXEMPT ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To update the Committee regarding the requests for dispensations received from five members of the Thurnham Parish Council and considered at the Committee's last meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to note that Councillors A. Stalker and M. Stalker of Thurnham Parish Council do not wish to proceed with their requests for dispensations.

REPORT

Members will recall that at the last meeting of the Committee on the 16th June 2005, it was reported that requests had been received from Councillors S. Bibby, M. Hornshaw, P.Quick, A. Stalker and M. Stalker of Thurnham Parish Council for dispensations to participate in matters relating to Glasson Dock Bowling Club of which they were all members.

It was reported that Thurnham Parish Council had seven members, and accordingly the five members who had applied for dispensations constituted more than 50% of those who would be entitled to participate in the business of the parish council. If dispensations were not granted, it would be impossible for the Council to consider issues relating to the Bowling Club.

The Committee granted the dispensations for the period to the next parish council election, but only on the basis that none of the five Councillors was the Chairman or the Treasurer of the Glasson Dock Bowling Club.

Following the meeting, the Clerk to the Parish Council confirmed that Mr. A Stalker is the Chairman of the Bowling Club, and Mrs. M. Stalker the Treasurer. The other three councillors from whom requests had been received are all ordinary members of the Club. The Clerk indicated that as the quorum for the Parish Council is three, the dispensations granted to the three ordinary members of the Club are sufficient for the Parish Council to conduct its business satisfactorily.

Accordingly, it is not necessary for the Standards Committee to consider further the requests from Mr. and Mrs. Stalker.

The granting of the dispensations to Councillors Bibby, Hornshaw and Quick have been noted on the Register of Interests held by the City Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

There are no financial implications from this report, and the Section 151 officer has no further comments.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Legal Services and the Monitoring Officer have no further comments.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None