



Member Code of Conduct Complaint

Decision Notice

Subject Member Councillor Charles Taylor

Parish Council Prestbury Parish Council

Decision Date: 16 May 2023

Decision: Complaint partially upheld

Sanction: N/A

Summary of Complaint

This complaint was made by former Parish Councillor Hilarie Owen. It alleges that at a meeting of the climate changing working group on 3 March 2023 Councillor Charles Taylor shouted and acted aggressively towards her.

She described his behaviour as insulting, offensive and intimidating and after leaving the meeting very upset she immediately resigned from the Parish Council.

Parts of the Code of Conduct alleged to have been breached

The complainant alleges that Councillor Taylor has breached the following part of the Code of Conduct:

- Failure to treat fellow Councillor with respect
- Bullying

Standards Hearing Sub-Committee

This complaint was considered by the Standards Hearing Sub-Committee on 16 May 2023.

Hilarie Owen and Councillor Charles Taylor were both in attendance and were able to address the Sub-Committee. Councillor Sandra Attwood and Councillor Dan Taylor were also in attendance as witnesses and addressed the Sub-Committee.

Full minutes of the hearing are available on the Council website:
www.cheltenham.gov.uk

The decision of the Hearing Sub-Committee

On the balance of probabilities the Sub-Committee found:

- Failure to treat fellow Councillor with respect – Proven
- Bullying – Not proven

The full text of the decision is available within the minutes

Sanctions

Councillor Taylor is required to issue an apology to Hilarie Owen.

The Sub-Committee also recommended that the Parish Council give consideration to implementing a training programme to assist its Councillors in working together.

Appeal

There is no right of appeal against this decision.

Claire Hughes
Monitoring Officer
Cheltenham Borough Council

19 May 2023



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