Minutes of the **General Purposes Committee**
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**
held in Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover
on Wednesday 17 June 2015 at 4:00 pm

Attendance:

Councillor I Carr **(Chairman)**	(P)	**Councillor M Hatley** **(Vice Chairman)**	(A)
Councillor N Adams-King	(P)	Councillor A Dowden	(P)
Councillor P Giddings	(P)	Councillor I Hibberd	(A)
Councillor A Hope	(A)	Councillor I Jeffrey	(A)
Councillor P Hurst	(A)	Councillor P North	(P)
Councillor G Stallard	(P)		

32   Urgent Item – The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015

The new Regulations simplify and localise the disciplinary process for the Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer. They remove the requirement that a Designated Independent Person (DIP) be appointed to investigate and make binding recommendations on disciplinary action against these senior staff.

The Regulations provide that in place of the DIP the decision would be taken by Council. Council must consider the advice and recommendations of a committee which must include at least two Independent Persons who have been appointed for the purposes of advising in matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct.

Recommended:

1.	**That the Employment Appeals and Ethics Sub-Committee be authorised for the purposes of Section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to advise the Authority on matters relating to the dismissal of relevant officers of the Authority. (When dealing with disciplinary or dismissal matters the Committee will include two or more independent persons).**

2.	**That authority be given to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make such changes as might be necessary to the Council's Constitution so as to ensure compliance with the new Regulations.**

33   Minutes

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

34   Minutes of Sub-Committees

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Employment Appeals and Ethics Sub-Committee held on 8 April 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

35   Staff Pay Award 2015/16

Following consultation with its members, Unison submitted a pay claim on behalf of its members, and those of GMB and Unite, for the year 2015/16.

TVBC is not a party to the national pay bargaining arrangements for local government; its pay framework is based on locally agreed pay arrangements for all employees. The Council's approved budget for 2015/16 contains provision for a potential pay award.

Resolved:

That a pay increase be awarded to staff with effect from 1 April 2015 in accordance with the recommendation in paragraph 6.7 to the report.

36   Scheme of Delegations to Officers

The report set out the Council's Scheme of Delegations to Officers as far as it applied to this Committee.

Resolved:

1.   **That the Scheme of Delegations to Officers annexed to the report to Annual Council in so far as it applies to the powers and duties of the General Purposes be approved.**

2.   **That the Scheme set out in the Annex to the report to Annual Council, as amended above, be incorporated into the Constitution.**

37   General Purposes Committee – Appointment of Sub-Committees

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the General Purposes Committee must establish Sub-Committees to deal with appeals.

Resolved:

1.   **That a Redundancy Appeals Sub-Committee of the General Purposes Committee be established comprising four members to deal with redundancy appeals and that Councillors Hibberd, Hope, Hurst, and Jeffrey be appointed to the Sub-Committee.**

2.   That an Employment Appeals and Ethics Sub-Committee of the General Purposes Committee be established comprising five members to deal with all other appeals to members by staff relating to employment matters (save for redundancy matters) as well as matters of an ethical nature concerning Members as delegated on 25 July 2012 and that Councillors Carr, Dowden, Giddings, Hatley and Hurst be appointed to the Sub-Committee.

(Meeting terminated at 4:36 pm)