

LANDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

CODE OF CONDUCT (Adopted June 2012)

High standards of conduct and behaviour are of huge importance to Parish Councils as they are needed to protect the integrity of decision making, maintain public confidence, and safeguard local democracy.

The seven principles underpinning public life (known as ‘the Nolan Principles’) are: **selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, and leadership**. Accordingly, elected members and co-opted members:-

1. Must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person or act to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, friends or close associate.
2. Must make all choices, such as making public appointments, awarding contracts or recommending individuals for rewards or benefits, on merit.
3. Are accountable for their decisions to the public and must co-operate fully with whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.
4. Must be as open as possible about their decisions and actions, the decisions and actions of the parish council, and should be prepared to give reasons for those decisions and actions.
5. Must declare any private interests, both pecuniary and non-pecuniary, that relate to their public duties, and must take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest, including registering and declaring interests in a manner conforming with the procedures set out below.
6. Must, when using or authorising the use by others of the resources of the authority, ensure that such resources are not used improperly for political purposes (including party political purposes) and must have regard to any applicable Local Authority Code of Publicity made under the Local Government Act 1986.
7. Must, within 28 days of taking office as a member or co-opted member notify the authority’s monitoring officer of any disclosable pecuniary interest as defined by regulations made by the Secretary of State, Where the pecuniary interest is theirs, their spouses’ or civil partner’s, or is the pecuniary interest of somebody with whom they are living as a husband of wife, or as if they were civil partners. They must notify the Parish Clerk of the same Within 14 days.
8. Must, within 28 days of taking office as a member or co-opted member, notify the authority’s monitoring officer of any disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests which the authority has decided should be included in the register. They must notify the Parish Clerk of the same within 14 days.

9. If an interest has not been entered onto the authority's register they must disclose the interest to any meeting of authority at which they are present, Where they have a disclosable interest in any matter being considered and where the matter is not a sensitive interest.
10. Following any disclosure of an interest which is not on the authority's register or the subject of pending notification, they must notify the monitoring officer of the interest within 28 days beginning with the date of disclosure. They must notify the Parish Clerk of the same within 14 days.
11. Unless dispensation has been granted, they may not participate in any discussion of, vote on, or discharge any function related to any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest as defined by regulations made by the Secretary of State. Additionally, they must observe the restrictions the authority places on their involvement in matters Where they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest as defined by the authority.

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