

## Nicola Golding

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**From:** Nicola Golding  
**Sent:** 03 December 2009 12:02  
**To:** West Wittering Parish Council  
**Subject:** RE: Code of Conduct complaint against WWPC Chairman

Dear Joanne,  
The Review Sub-Committee decided to take no action regarding the complaint against Cllr Hutton.  
A decision notice will be sent to you shortly.  
Yours sincerely,  
Nicola.

-----Original Message-----

From: JOANNE BROWN [mailto:wwpc@redhouse100.freemove.co.uk]  
Sent: 26 November 2009 12:42  
To: Nicola Golding  
Subject: FW: Code of Conduct complaint against WWPC Chairman

-----Original Message-----

From: Trevor Leggo [mailto:Trevor.Leggo@ruralsussex.org.uk]  
Sent: 05 November 2009 13:50  
To: wwpc@redhouse100.freemove.co.uk  
Subject: Re: Code of Conduct complaint against WWPC Chairman

Joanne

Very simply the Council takes decisions based on advice from Working Parties . My own view is that your Council is acting unwisely in not having committees although it is not unlawful .

With committees agendas are posted up and the public have a right to attend so the whole process is quite transparent. The Council is less vulnerable to criticism  
Regards

Trevor

----- Original Message -----

From: JOANNE BROWN <wwpc@redhouse100.freemove.co.uk>  
To: Trevor Leggo  
Sent: Thu Nov 05 13:00:36 2009  
Subject: Code of Conduct complaint against WWPC Chairman

Dear Trevor,

Hope all is well with you.

I have to inform you that Mr Hopson has appealed against the Assessment Sub Committees finding in relation to his complaint against Bob Hutton. Nicola Golding is dealing with the matter at CDC.

I have not been permitted to examine the appeal, however Nicola tells me that there is nothing new in it. She is however preparing the appeal for a Review sub committee.

We have discussed the issues in this complaint. From what Nicola tells me Mr Hopson is claiming that Mr Hutton, as Chairman has breached the Code by "allowing" (presumably

through his leadership, although how he can influence a decision of the Council remains to be proven) the council to operate using Working Parties. The crucial question that Nicola wants your advice on is whether a WP of 5 members (i.e. a majority) could be seen to influence a decision when it is discussed at a full Council meeting. The Parish Council does have a WP consisting of 3 members plus Chair and Vice. FYI Mike Kelley was satisfied that the WP's of WWPC operated perfectly legally.

In my opinion, as WP's cannot make decisions then the matter is clear as any decision is made by the full Council in public - however many members are involved in the WP is irrelevant, however she wants this matter resolved and asked me to ask for your opinion.

Please could you let me know if in your opinion, a WP consisting of a majority of Councillors is likely to result in a breach of the Code of conduct?

Many thanks

Joanne

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