

DECISION NOTICE: NO FURTHER ACTION

Reference WC – 21/14

Subject Member

Councillor Paul Hughes - Bowerchalke Parish Council

Complainant

Mr Alan Moon - Bowerchalke Parish Council

Review Sub-Committee Membership

Councillor Ernie Clark (Wiltshire Council) - Chairman

Councillor George Jeans (Wiltshire Council)

Councillor Horace Prickett (Wiltshire Council)

Deputy Monitoring Officer

Mr Frank Cain

Independent Person

Mr Stuart Middleton

Complaint

That Councillor Hughes, in an email dated 7 April 2014 and sent to members of Bowerchalke Parish Council, wrote "Bring back fascism - it's so much easier". The complainant considers the comment to be inflammatory, derogatory and inappropriate.

The complainant considers that this matter, if proven, would breach Bowerchalke Parish Council's Code of Conduct for members in that Councillor Hughes failed to support high standards of conduct by leadership and example.

Decision

In accordance with the approved arrangements for resolving standards complaints adopted by Council on 26 June 2012, which came into effect on 1 July 2012 and after hearing from the Independent Person, the Review Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee decided to uphold the decision of the Monitoring Officer that no further action should be taken.

Reasons for Decision

In considering the complaint and reviewing the information available and having considered all the facts before them, the Sub-Committee upheld the reasoning and decision of the Deputy Monitoring Officer that none of the matters set out in the complaint, if proven, would be capable of breaching the code.

Additional Help

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