

**Decision Maker:** Council

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

**Title:** MEETING OF THE URGENCY COMMITTEE

**Contact Officer:** Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
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**Chief Officer:** Mark Bowen, Director of Corporate Services

**Ward:** N/A

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1. Reason for report

- 1.1 The Urgency Committee deals with urgent non-executive decisions that are not of a sensitive nature where otherwise a meeting of full Council would be required. The Constitution specifies that any decisions made by the Committee should be reported to the next available meeting of the full Council. The Urgency Committee met on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013 to consider an urgent request for a dispensation from Cllr Eric Bosshard that would enable him to address Plans Sub-Committee No. 4 on behalf of residents in his ward. The dispensation was granted – the minutes of the meeting are attached for information.

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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the decision made by the Urgency Committee at its meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013 be noted.**

## Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
  2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council
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## Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost:
  2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Services
  4. Total current budget for this head: £366,826
  5. Source of funding: 2013/14 Revenue budget
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## Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): There are 8 posts (7.22 fte) in the Democratic Services Team
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
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## Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable: The report does not involve an executive decision.
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## Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected):
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## Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Policy/Financial/Legal/Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Agenda and minutes of the Urgency Committee meetings on 18 <sup>th</sup> April and 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2012

## **URGENCY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held at 6.00 pm on 29 May 2013

### **Present:**

Councillor Tony Owen (Chairman)  
Councillors Peter Dean, Peter Fookes,  
Russell Mellor, Ernest Noad and Colin Smith

### **1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2013/14**

Councillor Tony Owen was appointed Chairman for 2013/14.

### **2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were reported from Councillors Stephen Carr and Eric Bosshard, who were replaced by Councillors Colin Smith and Russell Mellor. Apologies had also been received from Councillor Tom Papworth.

### **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1ST MAY 2012**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012 be confirmed.

### **5 REQUEST FOR A DISPENSATION FROM COUNCILLOR ERIC BOSSHARD** Report RES13109

The Committee considered an urgent request for a dispensation from Councillor Eric Bosshard that would allow him to address the Plans Sub-Committee No. 4 meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2013 on behalf of local residents in his ward. The exact terms of his request were set out in the report before the Committee, but in summary Cllr Bosshard wished to continue to represent the views of local residents on this case, which had been going on for two and a half years. The introduction of the concept of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in July 2012 meant that he was prevented from speaking on the case as he lived next door to the site in question, whereas under the previous standards regime a Councillor with a pecuniary interest could address the meeting so long as they withdrew from the room before other Members began to debate the matter. The Committee considered that this condition was unnecessary in this case and decided that Councillor Bosshard's application for a dispensation should be granted unconditionally so that he could represent the interests of people living in the area.

**RESOLVED** that the application from Councillor Eric Bosshard to be allowed to address the Plans Sub-Committee No. 4 (and any subsequent meetings on the same case) on the application for 51 Marlings Park Avenue, Chislehurst be granted unconditionally.

The Meeting ended at 6.01 pm

Chairman