



**TONBRIDGE & MALLING**

**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Cllr Dave Davis**

Chairman Standards Hearing Panel

Cllr M Taylor  
41 Maidstone Road  
Borough Green  
Sevenoaks  
Kent TN15 8BQ

28 June 2017

Dear Councillor Taylor,

**TMBC'S HEARING PANEL 12-13 JUNE 2017 – FORMAL LETTER**

1. This is the third time you have appeared in front of a Standards Hearing Panel and the third time that you have been found to have breached a Councillors Code of Conduct. No other TMBC or parish councillor in the Borough past or present has such an unsatisfactory history.
2. We do not dispute that you personally believe that you are acting in the interests of your residents. However you clearly have a total disdain for the Codes of Conduct. Indeed you seem to believe that rude and aggressive behaviour will get the results you want. This is not so. Your conduct becomes the issue rather than the problem you are trying to solve. Your misguided approach also antagonises those who you are trying to influence setting up substantial barriers to creating positive outcomes to the problems you perceive and hence being totally unproductive. This makes you a less than effective councillor who brings discredit to the councils on which you serve and to you personally.
3. In this case you clearly breached the Borough Green Parish Council Code of Conduct which is based on the NALC code as amended and adopted by that council. You obstructed the Wrotham Schools Headmaster's car and then refused to move your van so he could move out unimpeded. The initial obstruction might have been excused in an overcrowded car park for a few minutes. The subsequent obstruction was a deliberate act of aggressive provocation with a considerable risk of demeaning the Headmaster if pupils, parents or other members of staff were aware of it. A swift removal of your van once you had realised it was an obstruction could well have defused the situation but you wantonly refused to do this and you continued your high handed attack. We do not accept your shallow and spurious excuse for this.
4. Your actions were a long way from those of a reasonable person. They made satisfactory resolution of your perceived complaints far harder, indeed impossible, for you to resolve. In fact the whole situation was resolved by others later when your concerns were found to be totally groundless.
5. Because of your high handed and counterproductive actions you have brought yourself and Borough Green Parish Council into disrepute and in doing so you have done a disservice to your residents.

6. You would be a much more effective councillor handling situations with disputed facts if you were to follow the Codes of Conduct and not take a highly aggressive and adversarial approach to individuals you have a dispute with.
7. You have a duty to your residents to follow this guidance.



Cllr D Davis  
Chairman of the Hearing Panel  
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

cc:  
The Complainant  
The Clerk to Borough Green Parish Council  
All Members of Borough Green Parish Council

Hearing Panel Members:

Cllr D Davis  
Cllr P Bates  
Cllr D Cure  
Parish Councillor M McKinlay  
Parish Councillor W Stead  
Parish Councillor D Thornewell

Cllr N Heslop  
Cllr J Sergison  
J Beilby, Chief Executive