

Minutes

Name of meeting	GENERAL PURPOSES (APPEALS) SUB COMMITTEE
Date and time	WEDNESDAY, 21 JANUARY 2009 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM
Venue	DIRECTORS MEETING ROOM, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT
Present	Cllrs Lady Sarah Pigot (Chairman), Ivan Bulwer, Susan Scoccia
Officers Present	Elaine Gutcher, Julie Martin, Amanda Page

40. **Minutes**

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2009 be confirmed.

41. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations at this stage.

42. **Exclusion of Public and Press**

RESOLVED:

THAT, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, namely Minute number 43, on the grounds that there was likely to be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

43. **Reports of the Director of Children's Services**

The Chairman welcomed those present and introduced Members of the Committee. She confirmed that all members had read the papers and outlined the procedure that was to be followed.

Consideration was given to appeals relating to school transport.

(a) Hearing 1

The appellant outlined his case highlighting several points from the documentation previously submitted. The Children's Services representative and members of the Sub Committee asked questions of the appellant.

Following representations from the Children's Services representative, the appellant and members of the Sub Committee asked questions. During the discussion a question arose relating to the distance between the appellants home and the school. A copy of the mileage was circulated to parties.

All parties withdrew, whilst the Sub Committee adjourned to consider the appeal.

The Sub Committee having considered all the reasons given by the appellant in his written and oral submissions, decided that the appeal should be refused.

The Sub Committee could see no compelling evidence or reason to exercise their discretion to override the Isle of Wight Council's Transport Policy.

It was also noted that the appellant had exercised his parental choice for his child not to attend the priority school.

RESOLVED :

THAT the appeal be refused.

(b) Hearing 2

The appellant outlined her case highlighting several points from the documentation previously submitted. The Children's Services representative and members of the Sub Committee asked questions of the appellant.

Following representations from the Children's Services representative, members of the Sub Committee asked questions. Children's Services then withdrew, whilst the Sub Committee adjourned to consider the appeal.

Members believed further financial information was needed and asked that a letter from the appellant's doctor also be provided.

RESOLVED :

THAT the hearing be adjourned to 16 February 2009 for further information.

(c) Hearing 3

The appellant was unable to attend the hearing and had submitted further written evidence which was circulated to all members and officers prior to the hearing.

Following representations from the Children's Services representative, members of the Sub Committee asked questions. Children's Services then withdrew, whilst the Sub Committee adjourned to consider the appeal.

The Sub Committee having considered all the reasons given by the appellant in her written submission, including the medical issues, decided that the appeal should be refused.

Due to the non attendance the Sub Committee was only able to consider the evidence before them and could see no compelling evidence or reason to exercise their discretion to override the Isle of Wight Council's Transport Policy.

It was also noted that the appellant had exercised her parental choice for her child not to attend the priority school.

RESOLVED :

THAT the appeal be refused.

(d) Hearing 4

The appellant did not attend the hearing.

Following representations from the Children's Services representative, members of the Sub Committee asked questions. Children's Services then withdrew, whilst the Sub Committee adjourned to consider the appeal.

The Sub Committee having considered all the reasons given by the appellant in his written submission including the appellant's financial circumstances, decided that the appeal should be refused.

Due to the non attendance the Sub Committee was only able to consider the evidence before them and could see no compelling evidence or reason to exercise their discretion to override the Isle of Wight Council's Transport Policy.

It was also noted that the appellant had exercised his parental choice for his child not to attend the priority school.

RESOLVED :

THAT the appeal be refused.

CHAIRMAN