



COLWICH PARISH COUNCIL

Colwich Parish Council Disclosure Log

Request: CPC FOI 13/25

Subject: Complaint against Councillor

Question:

I am writing to raise a formal complaint against Cllr X.

There have been two occasions where on Facebook, Cllr. X has vigorously defended the title role of Chief Officer without declaring an interest in matter by way of stating that she is a member of the Parish Council.

I see that Frank Harris states that Cllr. X's comments without stating her interest in the matter contravenes local government legislation.

Cllr. X is also a regular attendee at Mass where the Chief Officer performs the role of Deacon. This interest is not declared either.

For clarity, the complaint is the Cllr. X has not declared her position when posting on Facebook.

Therefore, I am requesting that you investigate and process my complaint with immediate effect and I request that Cllr. X stands aside whilst the complaint is being processed.

{The name of the Cllr has been removed for Data Protection purposes}.

Response:

Complaints about Councillors cannot be dealt with by the Parish Council. Instead, you should direct your complaint to the Monitoring Officer at Stafford Borough Council.

I see no relevance in referencing my, or Cllr X's, religious practice in a Council context. You may be aware that Religion and Belief are protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 s.10. That we both attend the same Church is not a conflict of interest, just as much as it is not a conflict of interest that you, occasionally, attend the same Church.

Any repetition will not be welcomed or tolerated and may well result in a complaint to Staffordshire Police under the Malicious Communications Act 1998 s.1 and the Communications Act 2003 s.127 as causing distress or anxiety.