

GRUNDISBURGH & CULPHO PARISH COUNCIL

Protocols for Public Participation in Council Meetings

This protocol applies to:

1) Participation in the public forum

This council meeting **is not** a public meeting, it is a meeting conducted in public, and there is no requirement in law to provide a public forum. As the council meets and makes its decisions in public and is committed to community engagement, we warmly invite members of the public, the press, the police and **district/county councillors** to attend our meetings and contribute **when invited to do so within the public forum**.

Please respect the fact that this is a meeting to conduct council business and interjections during council business are not permitted. If you disrupt business in any way you may be asked to leave. If you feel for any reason that you do not wish to take part in the public forum or if your problem is complex, you might wish to provide information to the council prior to the meeting in plenty of time before the meeting (at least 7 clear days if possible) using the contact details below.

- Public participation will be for a period of **approximately** 15 minutes (**period can be extended at the discretion of the Chairman**).
- The agenda will indicate when the public participation will take place. This will **normally be towards the end of the agenda though occasionally will be earlier when discussing issues that are of particular public concern** in order that councillors can take account of any views expressed when reaching their decisions.
- Questions and comments should address business on the agenda. Otherwise, in most cases, the matter will be carried forward, without discussion, to the next meeting.
- Verbal questions addressed to the Chairman must not exceed 2 minutes in length.
- Only one question on a topic to be received from each person but supplementary questions will be at the Chairman discretion
- No question shall be repeated within a 6 month period.

2) Reports in the public forum

We will also provide an opportunity for the police and district/county councillors to provide reports to the meeting and an opportunity to ask them questions will be given, at the council's discretion subject to the relevant conditions above with an overall time limit of twenty minutes including questions.

Mr. John Ager – Clerk to the Council
8 Post Mill Close,
Grundisburgh
WOODBIDGE,
Suffolk IP13 6UU

Tel: 01473-735541 Email: j.ager@tesco.net