

Public Participation

The public are now allowed to participate in Council meetings, but only in a structured way.

At the start of the meeting will be a period when the Chairman will ask the public present if anyone has anything that they wish to say, either on items on the agenda or other subjects.

Individuals will be allowed 3 minutes to speak, and a maximum of 20 minutes will be allowed for public participation. In the event of a large number of people wishing to speak, those who have notified the Clerk by the Friday prior to the meeting will be given preference.

If an individual wishes to comment on an agenda item it may be that the Chairman decides that it would be more appropriate for this comment to be taken at the relevant point in the meeting. The 3 minute rule still applies.

INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT INDICATE THEIR DESIRE TO COMMENT AT THE START OF THE MEETING WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK.

Anyone raising a subject that is not on the agenda must understand that the subject cannot be dealt with at the current meeting, as all items for discussion must be advertised in advance. Council members are therefore not permitted to respond except to ask questions for the purposes of clarification. The Council will then decide if the subject should be added to a future agenda.