

**STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA  
ITEM NO**

**26 NOVEMBER 2019**

**5**

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>PUBLIC SPEAKING PROCEDURE AT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (DCC)</b>
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To approve a revised procedure for public speaking at scheduled and special meetings of DCC.
<b>Decision(s)</b>	<b>The Committee RESOLVES to Approve the procedure for Public Speaking attached at Appendix 1 of this report at all DCC meetings with immediate effect.</b>
<b>Consultation and Feedback</b>	The procedure was presented to the Planning Review Panel on 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2019.
<b>Financial Implications and Risk Assessment</b>	There are no financial implications directly related to this report  Adele Rudkin, Accountant Tel: 01453 754109 Email: <a href="mailto:adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk">adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk</a>
<b>Legal Implications</b>	The Committee has authority to adopt procedures in terms of  Patrick Arran Interim Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer Tel: 01453 754369 Email: <a href="mailto:patrick.arran@stroud.gov.uk">patrick.arran@stroud.gov.uk</a>
<b>Report Author</b>	Geraldine LeCointe, Head of Development Management Tel: 01453 754322 Email: <a href="mailto:geraldine.lecointe@stroud.gov.uk">geraldine.lecointe@stroud.gov.uk</a>
<b>Options</b>	The Committee can decide whether or not to adopt the procedure as recommended.
<b>Background Papers/ Appendices</b>	Appendix 1 – Proposed Procedure for Public Speaking Appendix 2 – The currently adopted Procedure for Public Speaking

**1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND**

1.1 The procedure for public speaking at DCC was introduced approximately 8 years ago.

1.2 The adopted procedure currently makes no reference to public speaking at special meetings of DCC. These are meetings where single large

complex applications are considered. There have been a number of special meetings in the last 24 months which have led to the adopted procedure being temporarily amended with the agreement of the Chairman on each separate occasion. In this context, and with the likelihood of more special meetings in the future, it is considered pertinent to review and update the procedure so that all parties are clear as to the process for all DCC meetings.

## **2. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 2.1 Taking the above into account , it is recommended that the current procedure is revised and broadened to encompass the following:
- a. To extend the procedure to cover special meetings of DCC and for these meetings, to include an extended public speaking period for Town/Parish Council, objectors and supporters of 8 minutes each;
  - b. To extend public speaking in the same three categories at scheduled DCC meetings from 3 minutes to 4 minutes.
  - c. To require all parties who wish to speak to register with the democratic services and/or planning by noon on the day of the Committee (so that the Chairman is aware and that officers can prepare);
  - d. That everyone who has registered to speak is invited to arrive at the meeting in good time so agreement can be reached before the meeting starts as to how each category slot is to be split up should there be more than one speaker.

## **3. CONSULTATION**

- 3.1 The revised procedure was considered by the Planning Review Panel (PRP) on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. Panel members recommended changes to the time periods allowed for the public speaking from 3 to 4 minutes at scheduled DCC meetings and from 6 to 8 minutes for special meetings but made no other recommendations in respect of the revised procedure.
- 3.2 Appendix 1 reflects the longer time periods recommended. It is not considered that the longer time slots would unreasonably affect the length of meetings and that it is likely they would be welcomed by Town and Parish Council's and the public.

## **4. CONCLUSION / RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 That the Committee adopts the revised Procedure for Public Speaking at DCC attached at Appendix 1.