

# MATTER ① 3 MINUTE RULE

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I have referred to the frequent meetings of the Local Plan Advisory Committee and Full Council . I have to find fault with the arrangements for public participation; These are set out at some length by the Planning Officer in his comments to you. In practice it means that most would be speakers are given three minutes to present their points in accordance with regulations. But written or E-Mail representations are reproduced in full and are made part of the Committee papers for the Councillors to study and to take away for further consideration. No record is made of speakers representations or of the numbers of public attending meetings. So the official record presents a very different picture of a meeting and debate. For instance the very hectic meeting of the Local Plan Advisory Committee when the Majority of members voted to delete the Wolds Rise Site from the Draft Plan had minutes which failed to give a fair picture of the degree of public concern. The Full Council subsequently reinstated the site in the Plan. The next step on 24th November 2016 was for the Planning Officer to insert a clause in a "routine" planning meeting which was to deal with finance matters and to discuss items nothing to do with the Local Plan, The clause (copy attached) was to limit public speakers to a certain category of proposed sites for development; the Leader of the Council asked the Planning Officer "for the avoidance of doubt would he confirm that Wolds Rise Site was not in the Group able to be discussed" "Yes" was the answer There was a very lively debate in which several councillors urged the clause be dropped as it stopped free speech and set a very bad precedent in the Council seeming to seek to silence opposition . The clause was approved nevertheless. The facts were spread on Facebook etc and not well received by people who wished to speak at the Full Council Meeting on 8th December after the "gagging clause meeting" Only a few members of the Public attended that Final Meeting to approve the Local Plan; there was a preliminary private meeting of the Full Council. I was the first public speaker (subject National Park effect) I enquired whether the Wolds Rise Site could be spoken about and was told "Yes but you are here to talk about the National Park" Clearly the "gagging clause" was not being applied but the low turnout of people wishing to speak meant the Planning Officer had made sure there was a meeting with little or no public input. Lately some meetings have been recorded and put on web sites but I hope the above remarks may lead to a fairer system than the present regulations

Finally I did welcome the National Policy Framework Guide of March 2012. The promised clearout of all previous planning legislation meant that even a 90 year old surveyor could deal with the new era. Sadly this has not been the case. I have plenty of time to watch debates in Parliament and the past few years have seen so many attempts to deal with the housing and planning problems that I am seeing more and more Bills and Acts than ever.... On 28th March the Post Brexit Secretary for Community and Planning said (during discussion on yet another Neighbourhood Plans item) that he was going to instruct his Planning Inspectorate to approve Local Planning Authorities and Local Neighbourhood Planners decisions to refuse permission rather than have developers take advantage of the system to bring about development not wanted . An MP said if that was the case why was a recent Fracking approval given by an Inspector in spite of refusals all round from Local Planning Authorities etc Reply. These things happen.

- 12. CORPORATE PLAN TARGETS AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS 2017/18** **70 - 74**
- To consider the revised corporate plan targets for 2017/18 and note the mid-year performance against the targets for 2016/17.
- 13. RESIDENTS ONLINE PANEL SURVEY RESULTS** **70 - 94**
- To note the results of the Derbyshire Dales residents' survey undertaken in September/October 2016 using a new online panel and the implications for the Council's service and financial planning.
- 14. LOCAL PLAN DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** **95 - 98**
- To consider waiver of the Rules of Procedure governing public participation at the Special meeting of the Council to be held on 8 December 2016 and the temporary limitation of contributions at the meeting to the detailed rules of participation that would ordinarily apply to meetings of the Local Plan Advisory Committee.
- 15. PLANNING APPEALS – RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT BABBS LANE, DOVERIDGE** **99 - 101**
- To inform the Council that an appeal has been lodged against the non-determination of a planning permission for 165 dwellings, up to 47 units of Class C2 extra care and doctors' surgery at Babbs Lane, Doveridge which is to be determined by Public Enquiry in May 2017. Also, to consider approval of a budget of £20,000 from the General Reserve to appoint Independent Landscape Experts in addition to Counsel, to defend the District Council's case at the Public Enquiry.
- 16. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES – REVIEW BY INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL** **102 - 104**
- To receive an update on the review of Members Allowances and to consider the extension of office for the three temporary members to 31 March 2017. Also, to consider recruitment of three permanent members to the Panel from 1 April 2017 with a view to conducting an annual review of allowances from May 2017.
- 17. AMENDMENT TO APPOINTMENT TO AN OUTSIDE BODY** **105 - 106**
- To consider whether to continue relationships with the National Stone Centre following the resignation of the Council's representative from the Trustee Board.
- 18. REFERRED ITEMS** **107 - 111**
- To consider approval of two recommendations by the Community & Environment Committee that met on 27 October 2016 regarding expenditure from the Economic Development Reserve and an addition to the revenue budget, in relation to Economic Development Reserve expenditure and additional funding for the Crime and Disorder Reduction Officer, respectively.

### Public Participation at Planning Committees and meetings of the Local Plan Advisory Group

- a) Where it has been decided by the Council that a planning application will be dealt with by the Planning Committee, the applicant (or agent) and anyone who has made representations will be notified of the time and date of the Committee meeting.
- b) An agenda listing the items to be discussed at meetings of the Planning Committee and the Local Plan Advisory Group will be posted on the District Council's web site and at the offices of the Town hall, Matlock, 5 clear days before the meeting.
- c) Public Participation will be limited to one hour per meeting, with the discretion to extend exercised by the Committee Chairman (in consultation) in advance of the meeting. On line information points will make that clear in advance of registration to speak.
- d) Anyone wishing to make representations at a meeting must notify the Committee Section before Midday on the working day prior to the relevant meeting. At this time they will be asked to indicate to which item of business their representation relates, whether they are supporting or opposing the proposal and whether they are representing a town or parish council, a local resident or interested party.
- e) Those who indicate that they wish to make representations will be advised of the time that they need to arrive at the meeting venue so that the Committee Clerk can organise the representations and explain the procedure.
- f) Where more than 2 people are making similar representations, the Committee Administrator will seek to minimise duplication, for instance, by establishing if those present are willing to nominate a single spokesperson or otherwise co-operate in the presentation of their representations.
- g) Representations will only be allowed in respect of applications or items which are scheduled for debate at the relevant Committee meeting,
- h) Those making representations will be invited to do so in the following order, after the case officer has introduced any new information received following publication of the agenda and immediately before the relevant item of business is discussed. The following time limits will apply:

Town and Parish Councils	3 minutes
Objectors	3 minutes
Ward Members	5 minutes
Supporters	3 minutes
Agent or Applicant	5 minutes

- i) After the presentation it will be for the Chairman to decide whether any points need further elaboration or whether any questions which have been raised need to be dealt with by Officers
- j) The relevant Committee Chairman shall exercise discretion during the meeting to rule out immediately any comments by participants that are not directed to genuine planning considerations.
- k) Those making representations are not allowed to circulate any photos or written material to the Committee.