

# Thorpe St Andrew Town Council

## Guidance for Public Speaking at Full Council/Committee

Members of the public are welcome to attend any of the Town Council meetings and can speak on matters which appear on the agenda.

The full meeting of the Town Council considers a range of topics, but there are also Committees which have terms of reference to consider specific matters and either make a decision or make a recommendation to the full Town Council meeting.

The Committees are:

- Planning and Environment Committee
- Finance and Staff Committee
- Events and Media Committee

Who can speak:

- County/District Councillors (maximum 3 minutes per person or organisation)
- Police (maximum 3 minutes per person or organisation)
- Members of the Public (maximum 3 minutes per person or organisation)

### Meeting Format

You will have a maximum of 3 minutes to make your point, so you will need to be concise. You will not need to repeat submissions you have already made in writing as a summary/copy of these will be included in the report or in the meeting documents.

You will be invited to speak at the appropriate point on the agenda. You may be asked questions by the Councillors once you have spoken but you will not be able to ask questions of either the Councillors or officers. If you dispute anything within the report, you should raise this with the Town Clerk or designated officer well before the meeting.

In addition, you are not permitted to circulate any papers or photographs at the meeting. If you wish them to be available to the Councillors, they must be submitted to the Town Clerk at least 3 clear days prior to the meeting date.

### Constructive contributions are welcome

Everyone at the meeting is there to make sure the best decision is made, and your contribution should be heard in an atmosphere of respect. However strongly someone feels, critical comments about individuals are not acceptable. If someone is libelled, they can sue. The Town Mayor or Committee Chairman has the right to refuse to hear anyone behaving inappropriately.



THORPE ST ANDREW TOWN COUNCIL