

**THORNER PARISH COUNCIL
POLICY ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN
PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Public participation will take place as outlined on the Agenda of the meeting, item 3.

The Chair of the Parish Council (or whoever is presiding at the meeting) will control public participation and their decision upon proceedings at this part of the meeting is final.

If a member of the public wishes to speak during public participation, they should indicate by hand and the Chair will invite them to speak at an appropriate point in the proceedings.

Good manners and respect are expected during the session, if a member of the public interrupts the proceedings at any meeting, the Chair may, after warning, order that they be removed from the Council meeting.

Any representations should last no longer than five minutes.

At the Chair's discretion, there can be further questions from members to the representation being conducted.

Complaints to the council cannot be made during public participation, these should be addressed via the Council's adopted Complaints Procedure.

The Parish Council cannot take a decision on any issue raised during public participation unless the issue is specified on the agenda of the meeting, any issues must be put into writing for inclusion on the Agenda.

With regard to the Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014, members of the public, including citizens and professional journalists, are allowed to use modern technology and communication methods such as filming, audio-recording, blogging and tweeting to report the proceedings of the meetings of English councils and other local government bodies

The Clerk shall afford the press reasonable facilities for taking their report.

Adopted; 02 April 2016