

# **Wheatley Hill Parish Council**

## **Public Participation Policy**

Wheatley Hill Parish Council encourages public participation at its meetings.

However, the Council recognises that rules must control the manner of participation in order that the Council meeting operates effectively.

Public participation is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions, not to make statements.

Accordingly, the following must be observed for public participation at meetings of Wheatley Hill Parish Council: -

1. Public participation will take place at every Full Council meeting subject to the Chairs permission.
2. Public participation is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and not an opportunity to make statements.
3. Public participation will take place at the beginning of the meeting.
4. The Chair will determine in what order members of the public will be allowed to speak and ask questions having regard to who has previously asked questions at that meeting and previous meetings, and whether questions to be asked are the same or similar to other questions already asked.

In allowing public participation the Council is aware that this forms only one means of consultation with the public.

In answer to questions about services, the Council will endeavour to provide answers, where possible, at the meeting. If this is not possible, a written response will be given to the question, by the Clerk, as soon as possible after the meeting.