



KING'S STANLEY PARISH COUNCIL - MEDIA POLICY

Introduction

1. King's Stanley Parish Council ("the Council") is committed to the provision of accurate information about its governance, decisions and activities.
2. The Council shall, where possible, co-operate with those whose work involves gathering material for publication in any form including use of the internet ("the media").
3. This policy explains how the Council may work with the media to meet the above objectives in accordance with the legal requirements and restrictions that apply as detailed in the Council's Standing Orders and Publications Policy.

Meetings

4. A meeting of the Council and its committees is open to the public and press unless the meeting resolves to exclude them because their presence at the meeting is prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business or other special reason(s) stated in the resolution. In accordance with the Council's standing orders, persons may be required to leave a meeting of the Council and its committees, if their disorderly behaviour obstructs the business of the meeting.
5. Where a meeting of the Council and its committees include an opportunity for public participation, the media may speak and ask questions. Public participation is regulated by the Council's standing orders.
6. The photographing, recording, filming or other reporting of a meeting of the Council and its committees (which includes e.g. using a mobile phone or tablet, recording for a TV/radio broadcast, providing commentary on blogs, web forums, or social networking sites such as Twitter, Facebook and YouTube) which enable a person not at the meeting to see, hear or be given commentary about the meeting is permitted unless (i) the meeting has resolved to hold all or part of the meeting without the public present or (ii) such activities disrupt the proceedings.
7. The photographing, recording, filming or other reporting of a child or vulnerable adult at a Council or committee meeting is not permitted unless an adult responsible for them has given permission.
8. Oral reporting or commentary about a Council or committee meeting by a person who is present at the meeting is not permitted.

Other communications with the media

9. The Council's communications with the media seeks to represent the corporate position and views of the Council. *If the views of councillors are different to the Council's corporate position and views, they will make this clear as at no time should*

Councillors or the Officer's views be given to the press which could be interpreted as a view of the Council as a whole.

10. Councillors and the Officer must, at all times, act with integrity and any comment made must not be libellous or slanderous so as to bring the Council into disrepute.
11. All facts provided must be accurate and and give a fair overview of the issues.
12. All items going to the media on behalf of the Council must be sent to the Clerk to be kept on record.
13. The Council's Clerk may contact the media if the Council wants to provide information, a statement or other material about the Council.