

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE
HELD ON 26 APRIL 2019**

**DC.046/19 RIGHT TO SPEAK POLICY FOR DEVELOPMENT CONTROL
COMMITTEE**

The Development Manager submitted the Right to Speak Policy for Development Control Committee (ED.04/19) which set out a revised Right To Speak policy for operation in relation to Development Control Committee. The revised policy followed on from the workshop held with members of the Committee and would replace the current 2-sided A4 leaflet, thereby expanding on the Council's existing practices with updated information to make the process more transparent.

Following the workshop one matter remained outstanding: the right of Parish Councils to be able to address Members during the Committee's Site Visits. The Development Manager reminded Members that under the current policy Parish Councils were invited to attend site meetings to observe the procedure. They may address matters through their Ward Member or the Vice-Chairman, and also had the opportunity to formally address the Committee at its meeting. Against that background, the new policy as drafted retained the existing practice however, it provided for an extension of Parish Council's allotted time to speak at Committee meeting from the current 5 minutes to 10 minutes.

Members were asked to note that the site visits were not a public meeting and were not a vehicle for debating the application. Their purpose was to be fact finding visits for members of the Committee and did not substitute the meeting. Site visits were not carried out for every application, nor was every site visit in a parished area attended by the local Parish Council, with some Parishes using their local Ward Member to raise issues.

The Development Manager directed Members to consider whether or not they wished to see changes to the current practice and if so, what form those changes should take. There was no standard national practice and policies were determined individually by each Local Planning Authority.

The Development Manager recommended that the Right To Speak Policy For Development Control Committee be referred to the Executive for adoption.

A Member moved the Officer's recommendation which was seconded, and it was:

RESOLVED – That the Right To Speak Policy For Development Control Committee be referred to the Executive for adoption.