



LISKEARD COUNCIL
WORKING FOR YOU

LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

Procedures for Public Speaking at Planning Committee Meetings

Liskeard Town Council is committed to public participation in the planning process. Members of the public are welcome to put their views on a planning proposal directly to the Planning Committee when planning applications are being considered.

Who can speak?

Anyone who has an interest in any application on the agenda.

In the event of more than one person wishing to comment on an application, the Council requests that points previously raised are not repeated. If there are a group of people attending with similar views it may be useful to appoint a speaker to speak on behalf of the group. The Chair of the Planning Committee will use their discretion to guide speakers.

How much time is allowed for speakers?

The normal time allowed for public participation is 15 minutes per meeting, although individuals are limited to a maximum of 3 minutes, unless the Chair permits otherwise.

The Chair has discretion to extend the public participation section where there is considerable public interest in an application or applications to be considered at that meeting.

Do you need to register to speak?

No. On arrival you will be asked to sign in (for health and safety requirements). At the start of the public participation section on the agenda the Chair will ask for all requests to speak.

When and where are meetings held?

Planning Committee meetings are usually held on a Monday evening at 7.30pm at the Public Hall every four weeks.

Agendas are displayed at the Public Hall and published on the Town Council website [Liskeard Planning Committee | Liskeard Council Committees](#) approximately 5 days before the meeting.

What can you speak about?

This will depend on the application but should be restricted to material planning considerations. Examples include:

- Highway safety and traffic levels
- Noise, disturbance and smells resulting from the proposed development
- Design, appearance, density and layout
- Conservation of buildings, trees and open land
- Flood risk
- Visual impact e.g. character, appearance and environmental quality of place
- Excessive overlooking of windows or garden, loss of light, overbearing by large new buildings too close to the boundaries
- Need to safeguard the countryside or protected species of plant or animal
- Planning case law and previous decisions
- The need for the development
- The planning history of the site
- Deficiencies in social facilities e.g. school places
- Planning policies (National Planning Policy Framework, Cornwall Local Plan, Liskeard Neighbourhood development Plan)

The following are examples of matters which are **not** material considerations, and which cannot be taken into account by the Committee:

- Private property rights such as covenants
- The applicant/developer's identity, morals, personal circumstances or motives
- Effect on the value of neighbouring property
- Loss of a private view
- Private neighbour disputes
- Competition with another business
- Moral objections such as an objection to gambling or a pub
- Inconvenience or other problems caused by building works
- The fact that the development has already started
- Matters covered by other legislation

Can you ask questions?

Yes, but only during the public participation section.

How will your representations be recorded?

A summary of the comments made will be included in the minutes.

The final decision

This is made by Cornwall Council (the planning authority), with Liskeard Town Council acting in a consultative capacity only. If you wish to make a written objection or support an application, please do this via the Cornwall Council website [Online planning register - Cornwall Council](#) using the planning application reference number.

Bullying and Harassment Statement

We treat everyone with courtesy and respect and ask for the same in return. We ask that you treat your councillors and council staff courteously without violence, abuse, or harassment. Councillors and council staff have the right to carry out their civic duties and

work without fear of being attacked or abused. Any behaviour whether that be verbal, physical or in writing, which causes either councillors or council staff to feel uncomfortable, embarrassed, or threatened, is totally unacceptable.

The zero-tolerance policy includes abuse, aggression or threats made in person, over the telephone or in written communication, including on social media. The council considers threatening behaviour to be:

- Attempted or actual aggressive, or physical actions made towards any councillor or member of staff.
- The use of aggressive, or abusive language, (including raising of the voice, swearing, shouting or in writing) which threatens or intimidates councillors or council staff.

This policy applies throughout all Council Meetings, but it also applies to any Councillor or Council Staff away from Council Meetings.