## Kibworth Beauchamp Parish Council

Serving Kibworth Beauchamp in south-Leicestershire since 1895

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS**

The Local Government Act, 1972 sets out how Parish Council meetings and their committees are conducted. These are rules which all councillors and the public must respect.

The meetings are not public meetings. The public has a statutory right to attend as observers, but no legal right to speak unless the Chair authorises them to do so.

We value the opinions of residents and therefore allocate time at the beginning of every meeting for the public to ask or answer questions, make representations, or give evidence, relating only to items on the agenda.

The Chair has the right to say that any question or statement is inappropriate and cannot be accepted. Any questions asked during this session may not be answered immediately by the councillors or Clerk if further research and deliberation is required.

Members of the public are welcome to stay after the public session as observers but cannot join in the debates unless invited to do so by the Chair.

Members of the public may be excluded when certain items are discussed which deal with confidential matters such as staff salaries, contracts and some legal issues. These items are usually indicated clearly on the agenda beforehand.

The agenda is published on the parish noticeboard and online at least three clear days before the meeting. Sundays, Public Holidays, the day the agenda is published, and the day of the meeting are not 'clear' days.

The business of the meeting is recorded by the Clerk as Minutes which are approved at the following meeting and published on the noticeboard and our website.