

PEOVER SUPERIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Communication with the Press Policy

Objective

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that any statement issued to the press is a true reflection of the decisions/opinion of the Parish Council as a body. Councillors should always be scrupulous in making it clear when they are expressing their own personal opinions as opposed to Parish Council decisions or policy.

Procedure

A request from the press for a statement from the Parish Council will normally be addressed to the Clerk. The Clerk should contact the Chair, or if the Chair is unavailable, the Vice-Chair in order to draw up a suitable statement. In drawing up a statement minutes of meetings of the Parish Council should be consulted to ensure the accuracy of any statement.

Where a novel issue is raised by the press enquiry, the Chair (or Vice-Chair) should consult as many Parish Councillors as reasonably practicable in order to arrive at a consensus of opinion prior to issuing a statement.

Where an individual Councillor is approached by the press for a statement the matter should be referred to the Parish Clerk.

Keeping Records

When a statement has been issued to the press, this fact should be minuted at the next Parish Council meeting.

Approved at Peover Superior Parish Council Meeting on ...15th September 2020...

Signed by Parish ClerkS. Worthington.....