



**EAST WITTERING AND BRACKELSHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**POLICY ON GRANTING DISPENSATIONS TO COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 the Parish Council may determine requests from a Parish Councillor for a dispensation.

A dispensation allows a Councillor to take part in Council business where under Section 34 of the Localism Act 2011 this would otherwise be prohibited.

**Requesting a Dispensation**

Any councillor who wishes to apply for a dispensation should submit a Dispensation Request Form to the Clerk before the meeting at which the Dispensation is required. A councillor may also make an application at the meeting itself should the nature of the interest only become apparent to the Councillor at the meeting. A request for dispensation must be made on an individual basis.

**Procedure for Consideration of Requests for Dispensations**

Dispensations will be considered by the Parish Council under the relevant standing Agenda item and subject to the voting procedures as stated within the Council's Standing Orders.

The Parish Council may grant a dispensation to a councillor who has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest to participate in any discussion of a matter at a meeting and/or to participate in any vote on a matter if it considers that:

- (a) Without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business (i.e. the meeting would not be quorate); or
- (b) Granting the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the Council's area; or
- (c) It is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.

Any dispensation granted must specify the period for which it has effect, not to exceed 4 years.

**Adopted: 11.05.23**

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