Additional guidance on the recording and filming of Cawood Parish Council and Committee Meetings; draft addendum to be read in conjunction with the main protocol document

Any person wishing to record a meeting in any format whatsoever is encouraged (but not compelled), to contact the Clerk prior to the start of the meeting. The Clerk’s details are set out in the public notice and/or agenda of the meeting; (or in her absence, the contact will be the Chairman of Cawood Parish Council.) Discussing requirements with the Clerk beforehand will help to ensure that the council provides reasonable facilities to meet the needs of the person that is recording.

For the benefit for those who wish to record - where the recording device being used involves equipment which is larger than a smart phone, tablet or compact camera or if the person recording has other special requirements he/she is requested to please contact the Clerk prior to the meeting so that reasonable arrangements can be made. The use of lighting for filming/flash photography will usually be allowed provided that it does not adversely impact on the ability of others present to view the meeting, or for reasons of health, whereby the Council may require that such lighting is not used or is reduced to a level which does not adversely affect other people. The lighting should not cause any form of disruption.

The person making the recording may move around, however in doing so he/she must ensure that there is minimal or no disruption to the proceedings of the meeting.

A person or persons recording the meeting are reminded that the “Public Participation” period may not be part of the formal meeting and that they should take legal advice for themselves as to their rights to make any recording during that period.

Where the press and public are excluded from a meeting or part of a meeting owing to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, recording of that meeting or that part of the meeting will not be permitted.

The specific filming of children or young people under the age of 18 who are present cannot take place unless their parents/guardians have given their written consent. This provision also applies to vulnerable adults whereby the consent of a responsible adult is required, i.e. a medical professional, carer or legal guardian. Where the permission is given, filming of these people can take place.

The council requests that all recording is overt (i.e. clearly visible to anyone at the meeting) but cannot compel those who are recording to do so.

A person or persons making a recording has no right to interrupt a meeting by asking questions or making comments for the purpose of the recording. The person recording has no right to ask councillors, officers or any members of the public who have been given permission to contribute orally to the meeting to repeat a statement for the purposes of the recording.

Persons who are recording are requested not to leave their equipment unattended where possible, and are responsible for their equipment at all times.

CPC September 2020,

Review Sept 2021