ST DENNIS PARISH COUNCIL

Policy for broadcasting or using social media at council meetings

The right to record, film and to broadcast meetings of the Council, Committees and sub-Committees is established in following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014. This is in addition to the rights of the press and public to attend such meetings.

1. St Dennis Parish Council will make the Council meeting room available to the press and public 15 minutes before and after meetings for the setting up and removal of any filming equipment.
2. Members of the press and public are permitted to film or record meetings to which they are permitted access, in a non-disruptive manner and only from public areas.
3. Meetings or parts of meetings from which the press and public are excluded may not be filmed or recorded.
4. The use of digital and social media recording tools, for example Twitter, blogging or audio recording will be allowed as long as it is carried out in a non-disruptive manner. Vexatious or disruptive conduct will not be tolerated.
5. The Chair of the meeting, or any such Council representative as designated by the Chair, has the authority to stop a meeting and take appropriate action if any person contravenes these principles or is deemed to be recording in a disruptive manner.
6. Councillors who choose to use social media during Council meetings must refrain from disrupting other Councillors and Council Debate.
7. Councillors who choose to record, film or broadcast meetings including the use of social media are reminded of their responsibilities under the Council's Code of Conduct including confidentiality requirements.
8. While those attending meetings are deemed to have consented to the filming, recording or broadcasting of meetings, those exercising the rights to film, record and broadcast must respect the rights of other people attending under the Data Protection Act 1998. The person filming or recording must respect the wishes of the members of the public who object to being filmed or recorded. The recording of children and vulnerable adults will only be allowed with the consent of a responsible adult. (parent, teacher, medical professional, carer or legal guardian).
9. Any Person or organisation choosing to film, record or broadcast any meeting of the council is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them so doing and choosing to film, record or broadcast proceedings they accept that they are required to indemnify the Council, its members and officers in relation to any such claims or liabilities.

10. The Council asks those recording proceedings not to edit the film or recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation of the proceedings, or infringe the core values of the Council. This includes refraining from editing an image or views expressed in a way that may ridicule, or show lack of respect towards those being filmed or recorded.
11. The Council will display the requirements as to filming, recording and broadcasting at its meeting venues and those undertaking these activities will be deemed to have accepted them whether they have read them or not.
12. The Council will advertise that all the meetings are held in public and could be filmed or recorded by broadcasters, the media or members of the public.
13. The Council will publish guidance on filming recording and broadcasting of meetings on its website.
14. At this time St Dennis Parish Council does not film, record or otherwise report from meetings additionally to the minutes.

Adopted by St Dennis Parish Council
12th September 2017
Minute Ref: F20/17
Reviewed by St Dennis Parish Council
13th May 2025
Minute Ref: 47/25
Reviewed by St Dennis Parish Council
5th May 2026
Minute Ref: 46/26