

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
MONITORING OFFICER	COUNCIL	16 OCTOBER 2017	7
CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

The Audit and Standards Committee considered a request for amendments to be made to Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, Procedural Standing Orders for Council and Committees at its recent meeting. Its recommendations for consideration by Council are set out below.

RECOMMENDATION

1. To amend Paragraph 13.7 to include an additional new paragraph which would read "All amendments should be submitted in writing and given to officers prior to the [Council] meeting. If this is not possible, a written copy will be accepted during the meeting so that officers can read it aloud, thus providing clarity to all members."
2. To amend the second sentence of paragraph 13.2, for clarity, to read "Unless it is a notice of motion under rule 12.1, the Mayor *will* require the proposal to be written down and handed to him before it is discussed, *consistent with paragraph 13.7(b) below.*"
3. To amend Paragraph 16 with the additional wording, "Any challenge to the previous Council Minutes must be submitted to the Monitoring Officer within five working days of the formal publication of the Minutes. Verbal challenges during the meeting will not be accepted". This wording would follow the current sentence "The only matter which may be discussed is the accuracy of the minutes."

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

17 July 2017 – Following an amendment by Councillor Oades to recommendation 3, "to change 5 working days following formal publication of the minutes to 10 working days prior to the next Council meeting, in line with notifications for notices of motion", this item stood adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council in accordance with Standing Order item 29.2

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	✓
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	✓
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	✓

To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	✓
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	✓

REPORT

1. The Audit and Standards Committee considered a request at its last meeting for amendments to the Constitution. The Committee made a number of recommendations for the Council to consider and these are set out below:
 - To amend Paragraph 13.7 to include an additional new paragraph which would read “All amendments should be submitted in writing and given to officers prior to the [Council] meeting. If this is not possible, a written copy will be accepted during the meeting so that officers can read it aloud, thus providing clarity to all members.”
 - To amend the second sentence of paragraph 13.2, for clarity, to read “Unless it is a notice of motion under rule 12.1, the Mayor *will* require the proposal to be written down and handed to him before it is discussed, *consistent with paragraph 13.7(b) below.*”
 - To amend Paragraph 16 with the additional wording, “Any challenge to the previous Council Minutes must be submitted to the Monitoring Officer within five working days of the formal publication of the Minutes. Verbal challenges during the meeting will not be accepted”. This wording would follow the current sentence “The only matter which may be discussed is the accuracy of the minutes.”

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	No implications
Legal	No implications
Community Safety	None
Human Rights and Equalities	None
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Audit & Standards Committee Report & Minutes	15/6/17	Audit & Standards Committee