

Central  
Bedfordshire  
Council  
Priory House  
Monks Walk  
Chicksands,  
Shefford SG17 5TQ



**CONSTITUTION ADVISORY GROUP**

**DATE:** 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Proposed amendment to public speaking at Development Management Committee</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	Gary Worth AD Development Management

<b>PURPOSE</b>	To consider allowing speakers 5 minutes rather than 3 minutes as currently allowed by the Constitution of Central Bedfordshire (Part A4, Annex 3, 3.1 -3.4)
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<b>ORIGIN OF PROPOSAL</b>	Following the Town and Parish event of 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2009, Cllr Shadbolt discussed this issue with Peter Brown of Stondon Parish Council after Mr Brown had raised the issue during Open Forum Questions at the event. Cllr Shadbolt undertook to investigate the matter further with a view to bringing forward an item to the CWG.
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**RECOMMENDATION:**

- (1) That the Constitution of Central Bedfordshire Council remains unaltered in respect of public speaking at Development Management Committee to allow 3 minutes to speakers.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

1. Following the question from Peter Brown at the Central Bedfordshire Council Town and Parish event on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009, Cllr Trisha Turner undertook to carry out research of national best practice and to include the findings in the report of the Town and Parish event. This work was carried out and the findings concluded that Central Bedfordshire Council current arrangements were in keeping with national best practice and therefore no changes should be proposed. The findings were included with the responses to the open forum questions in the Town and Parish Event Post Conference Report (A copy is attached, please see page 9). It should be noted that the Chair of the Committee has discretion to allow longer for speaking by virtue of Part A4, Annex 3, 4.
2. A meeting was held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010. In attendance were Cllr Tom Nicols PFH Sustainable Development, Cllr Alan Shadbolt Vice Chair of DMC, Gary Worth AD Development Management, Andrew Davie, Head of Development Management North and David Hale, Head of Development Management South. Cllr Peter Vickers, Chair of DMC was invited but did not attend. The issue was discussed at this meeting and it was agreed by all present, given the research carried out and the reported findings, that no change to the Constitution was required.

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<b>Contact Officer Details:</b>
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Gary Worth
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<b>Key Background Papers:</b>
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Town and Parish report
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