

**PEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL
CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT ITEMS**

1. The reason for confidentiality or exemption is stated on the agenda to exclude public access who will be requested to leave the meeting prior to business being conducted.
2. The public must be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, that confidential information would be disclosed. Likewise, public access to reports, background papers, and minutes will also be excluded.
3. Confidential information:
 - information given to the Council by a Government Department on terms which forbid its public disclosure or;
 - information, the disclosure of which to the public is prohibited by or under another Act or by Court Order. Generally personal information which identifies an individual, must not be disclosed under the data protection and human rights rules.
4. Exempt information - discretion to exclude press and public access:

The public may be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that exempt information would be disclosed provided:

 - the meeting resolves to exclude the public, and that resolution identifies the proceedings or part of the proceedings to which it applies, and;
 - that resolution states by reference to the descriptions in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 the description of the exempt information giving rise to the exclusion of the public.
 - that resolution states, by reference to reasons given in a relevant report or otherwise, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.
5. In these circumstances, public access to reports, background papers and minutes will also be excluded.
6. Where the meeting will determine any person's civil rights or obligations, or adversely affect their possessions, Article 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998 establishes a presumption that the meeting will be held in public unless a private hearing is necessary for one of the reasons specified in Article 6.

7. Exempt information means information falling within the following categories (subject to any condition):
- Information relating to any individual.
 - Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or officer-holders under the authority.
 - Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
 - Information which reveals that the authority proposes -
 - to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - to make an order or direction under any enactment
 - Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.