

Application for a Dispensation

You should use this form to submit an application to Gwynedd Council's Standards Committee for a dispensation, i.e. permission to take part in a discussion even though you have a 'prejudicial interest' under the Members' Code of Conduct. The Committee may grant a dispensation if the circumstances come within one of the paragraphs listed in the Appendix to this form.

1. Name : Councillor Gareth Roberts

Council: Gwynedd

2. What is the item in question?

An application from the National Trust to build a Centre of Excellence for Coastal Tourism in Henfaes Car Park, Aberdaron.

3. What is your interest (i.e. your connection with the matter)?

My connection is that I worked for the National Trust for 12 years from 1985 to 1996; I am at present their tenant here at Cwrt and I have been part of the Team (as a Local Councillor) as well as a representative of the local community which has worked on developing the plan.

4. Why do you believe you should be able to take part in the discussion?

The intention of the development is to create an information centre that would interest people during the summer in bad weather to keep them locally, refer people to sites of special interests such as birds, vegetation, paths, archaeology, geology, views, Enlli, accommodation, cafes, etc. so that the wider community benefits. It is also hoped that by highlighting the varied environmental offerings of the area will be attracted to visitors outside of the traditional window. There is an undertaking not to compete with any existing local businesses, and if there should be a commercial venture it would be an addition to the present provision and not in competition. Therefore my argument is that I am only operating for the general benefit of the area and not for any personal benefit to myself or my family and that I wish to have the Standards Committee's dispensation to enable me to speak on behalf of the community.

5. Which paragraph(s) is/are relevant in your view? (see Appendix) (d)

6. Are you applying for a dispensation to speak and vote or to speak only?

Speaking as a Local Member and not as a Member of the Committee – without a vote.

7. Are you requesting a dispensation for a particular meeting (if so provide details) or a general one so that you can take part whenever the matters arises?

The application from the National Trust to build a Centre of Excellence for Coastal Tourism in Henfaes Car Park, Aberdaron.

Signed :



Dated 21st November, 2012.

Application for Dispensation (Appendix)

Circumstances in which dispensations may be granted

“2. The standards committee of a relevant authority may grant dispensations under section 81(4) of the Act where -

(a) no fewer than half of the members of the relevant authority or of a committee of the authority (as the case may be) by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business;

(b) no fewer than half of the members of a leader and cabinet executive of the relevant authority by which the business is to be considered has an interest which relates to that business and either paragraph (d) or (e) also applies;

(c) in the case of a county or county borough council, the inability of the member to participate would upset the political balance of the relevant authority or of the committee of the authority by which the business is to be considered to such an extent that the outcome would be likely to be affected;

(d) the nature of the member's interest is such that the member's participation in the business to which the interest relates would not damage public confidence in the conduct of the relevant authority's business;

(e) the interest is common to the member and a significant proportion of the general public;

(f) the participation of the member in the business to which the interest relates is justified by the member's particular role or expertise;

(g) the business to which the interest relates is to be considered by an overview and scrutiny committee of the relevant authority and the member's interest is not a pecuniary interest;

(h) the business which is to be considered relates to the finances or property of a voluntary organisation of whose management committee or board the member is a member otherwise than as a representative of the relevant authority and the member has no other interest in that business provided that any dispensation shall not extend to participation in any vote with respect to that business; or

(i) it appears to the committee to be in the interests of the inhabitants of the area of the relevant authority that the disability should be removed provided that written notification of the grant of the dispensation is given to the National Assembly for Wales within seven days in such manner as it may specify.”

(The Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001)