

# **Tabard Gardens North T&RA**

## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEETINGS**

1. To ensure that meetings of the T&RA (and any sub-committee) are conducted in a spirit of equality and informality in which minority opinions can be heard, the following code of conduct should apply to all meetings.
2. All participants (this means everyone present at the meeting – members, officers, Councillors and observers) in T&RA meetings have a responsibility to conduct themselves in a way that does not cause offence to others or limits in any way their ability to participate in meetings.
3. This includes racist, sexist or other derogatory remarks or actions, behaviour that intimidates people who are speaking or wish to speak and preventing people from expressing their views through interrupting or talking while they are speaking.
4. Participants must be particularly sensitive to the needs of those members who may not be used to speaking in public or whose first language is not English.
5. No personal remarks should be made and no confidential information about an individual should be raised.
  - 5.1 Where issues are raised about individual tenants who are causing concern, this should be done in such a way as to not identify the tenant.
6. Committee members or members of the public who feel that this code of conduct has been breached should raise it with the Chair of the meeting, either at the time or immediately after the meeting.
  - 6.1 The Chair will judge whether the person has breached the code of conduct. If there has been a breach the Chair will point out to the person that such behaviour is not acceptable.
  - 6.2 Where a Committee member or member of the public feel the Chair of the meeting has breached the Code of Conduct there they should request the Vice Chair or in their absence another committee member to propose a motion of No Confidence in the Chair. During the debate on the motion the Chair should hand over to the Vice Chair.
  - 6.3 If the unacceptable behaviour persists a motion will be put to the meeting to suspend the person or persons from the meeting. Future participation by that person in T&RA meetings will be dependant upon a commitment being given in writing to the Chair that such behaviour will not recur.
  - 6.4 Anyone may be excluded for continued breaches of the code of conduct by a simple majority of those present and voting at the T&RA meeting. An excluded person shall have the right of appeal to the next General Meeting of the T&RA.