**Safeguarding Policy For Newborough and Borough Fen Parish Council**

Adopted on 19th May 2020 and amended for review on 23rd June 2020.

1. Introduction and Purpose

1.1 Safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing, and human rights, enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect.

1.2 The welfare of children and adults at risk is paramount. All organisations must comply with the law regarding the protection and safeguarding of children and adults at risk, as per the most recent enacted safeguarding legislation, The Care Act 2014.

1.3 The purpose of this document is to define the policy and procedures that apply to use

of our Parish Council premises, including any outdoor areas and Parish Council activities.

2.0 Definition of Terms Used

2.1 CHILD - A child is anyone under the age of 18.

* 1. ADULT AT RISK - [The Care Act 2014](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted) defines an adult at risk as:
* Someone over the age of 18 who has a need for care and support
* Someone who is experiencing or is at risk of neglect or abuse.

As a result of the above needs, the adult is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect, or the risk of it.

* 1. SAFEGUARDING

1. Safeguarding children is defined in ‘Working Together to Safeguard Children’ 2013 as:

* protecting children from maltreatment
* preventing impairment of children’s health and development
* ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and
* taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

1. The Care Act 2014 states that Adult safeguarding is working with adults with care and support needs to keep them safe from abuse or neglect. It is an important part of what many public services do, and a key responsibility of local authorities. Safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:

* has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and;
* is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect; and;
* as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect.

2.4 ABUSE OF A CHILD - The NSPCC have identified specific forms of abuse which may be perpetrated against a child. These are defined as:

* Bullying
* Emotional abuse
* Physical abuse
* Child trafficking
* Neglect
* Sexual abuse
  1. ABUSE OF AN ADULT

The Law Commission's Report into Adult Social Care defines harm as including but not limited to:

* ill treatment (including sexual abuse, exploitation and forms of ill treatment which are not physical)
* the impairment of health (physical or mental) or development (physical,
* intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural)
* self-harm and neglect
* unlawful conduct which adversely affects property, rights or interests (for example, financial abuse).

3.0 Principles of our Policy

3.1 Children and adults at risk have a right to use the any NBFPC facilities and any outdoor areas protected and free from abuse of any kind regardless of gender,

ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs.

3.2 All Parish Councillors have a duty to safeguard the children and vulnerable adults who use their facilities.

3.3 This policy applies to all Parish Councillors and all users of the Parish Council facilities including outdoor areas.

3.4 The policy will be reviewed and approved annually and whenever there is a change in

the laws or published guidelines.

3.5 The policy will be available for anyone to inspect on the Newborough and Borough Fen Parish Council web site or by request from the Clerk.

3.6 Anyone with a conviction for a sexual offence against a child or an adult at risk,

whenever it was committed, is not considered suitable as a Parish Councillor.

3.7 All concerns and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by NBFPC and responded to appropriately - this may require a referral to social services and in emergencies, the police.

4.0 Responsibilities

4.1 The person with specific responsibility for safeguarding (Delegated Lead) is the parish Clerk, Irene Healiss. The Deputy is Kevin Angrave.

4.2 All users of the NBFPC facilities and outdoor areas are responsible for reporting suspicions of abuse using the contact details below.

4.3 The Delegated Lead should be advised of any safeguarding incidents at the NBFPC facilities or outdoor areas so that any necessary appropriate preventive action can be taken. Confidentiality will be observed but information sharing will be necessary if a child or adult is deemed to be at risk of harm.

5.0 Reporting Suspicions of Abuse

For concerns regarding children, contact:

If you think that a child is at risk, contact our Duty Social Worker on 01733 864180 or you may call the Police. If you are unsure, you can speak to a helpline, such as the NSPCC and your call will be kept private and confidential.

Out of office hours Emergency Duty Team can be called on; 01733 234724

Non-urgent referrals - Peterborough Adult Social Care

• 01733 747474 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

• email adultsocialcare@peterborough.gov.uk

Emergency referrals

Within office hours - Peterborough Adult Social Care

01733 747474 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

Outside office hours - Emergency Duty Team 01733 234724 or email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

Child Exploitation and Online <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Ceop-Report/Protection> (CEOP)Centre

6.0 DBS Checks

6.1 Anyone who involved in regulated activity (as defined by law) with children or vulnerable adults requires a DBS check.

6.2 Parish Councillors are not in regulated activity as part of their usual responsibilities and do not require checks.

6.3 Certain agents who provide services to children will be included in the definition of

regulated activity. They will be required to provide a copy of their Safeguarding Policy

and proof of DBS clearance annually when their contract is negotiated.

6.4 The legal guidelines surrounding the current pandemic clarifies that there is no legal requirement for checks on volunteers offering assistance within their communities when, for example, delivering shopping. Sensible and pragmatic steps are to be taken and Safeguarding practices should be adopted- i.e. leave supplies at the door and stay two metres apart. Those legally prevented from volunteering with children and vulnerable adults are barred from volunteering and should declare this to the community group organising the activity.

7.0 Lettings

7.1 Hirers of any NBFPC facilities will be made aware that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film on show.

7.2 No gambling or entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is permitted on any NBFPC premises or outdoor spaces.

7.3 Organisations hiring any NBFPC facilities or outdoor spaces for activities for children/vulnerable adults will be asked to show their Safeguarding Policy before the first hiring commences. Individuals hiring the facilities for activities for children/vulnerable adults will be made aware of the NBFPC Safeguarding Policy.

7.4 In addition, any individual or group hiring any NBFPC facilities or outdoor spaces to provide a facility for children(playgroups, football training, youth clubs for example) will be required to show their DBS clearance to the Parish Clerk and the disclosure number will be recorded. Any delegation of that hirer to other people to supervise the children is the responsibility of the hirer and the NBFPC Parish Clerk will not vet these delegates for DBS clearance.

8.0 Extremism and the Prevent Duty

8.1 Parish Councillors will not permit any NBFPC facilities to be used for any extremist activity.

8.2 We are in a higher risk area for extremist activity. Any suspicions of terrorism should be reported to the police anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789321 or online at

https://www.met.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/.

9.0 Other Safeguarding Issues

9.1 Below are some of the other areas that we need to be alert to in terms of safeguarding the more vulnerable in our community:

* Online sexual exploitation of children
* County lines (drug trafficking using people in rural areas)
* Child trafficking
* Female genital mutilation
* Forced marriage

8.0 Other Relevant Policies

* Health & Safety
* Equality & Diversity
* Code of Conduct for Trustees

Approval

This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Council on 19th May 2020

Date for next review: June 23rd 2020.