

BRADFORD ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL

Safeguarding Policy

This policy outlines the guidelines and responsibilities for the appropriate welfare and protection of children and adults with care and support needs whilst engaged in any Parish Council activity.

Statement

In the interests of child protection and the welfare and protection of adults with care and support needs, the Parish Council is committed to ensuring that children and adults with care and support needs are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are engaged in any activity associated with the Parish Council.

Policy Objective:

1. To ensure that, where possible, all facilities and activities offered by the Parish Council are designed and maintained to limit risk to children and vulnerable adults with care and support needs.
2. To promote the general welfare, health and development of children by being aware of child protection issues and to be able to respond where appropriate as a local government organisation.
3. To develop reporting procedures in responding to accidents and complaints and to alleged or suspected incidents of abuse and neglect.
3. As the Parish Council does not directly provide care or supervision services to children and adults with care and support needs, it expects all children and adults with care and support needs using its facilities to do so with the consent and the necessary supervision of a parent, carer or other responsible adult.

Aims

The aim of this policy document is to guide members of the Parish Council should any child protection issue or any issues with adults with care and support needs arise during their work.

Responsibilities & Procedures

The Clerk and Chairman have been designated as Safeguarding Officers and responsibilities will include:

- Ensuring that participants are appropriately briefed before any Parish Council organised event with children or adults with care and support needs

- Ensuring that members are aware of the risk they may face in certain circumstances whilst carrying out their duties
- Highlighting to all new councillors the existence of the Safeguarding Policy and where it can be found
- Keep records of any allegations made and of the referral report made

If a Council Member becomes aware of a child abuse incident it should be reported to either of the Safeguarding Officers who will be responsible for ensuring that a referral report is made and actioned by referral to Dorset Council for further action as appropriate

Following any disclosure or concern for a young person in immediate danger
Councillors/staff/volunteers should contact:

- If you are in Dorset you should contact the Children's Advice and Duty Service (Family Support Advice Line) on 01305 228558
- If you believe a child is in immediate danger, then please call 999.
- Website: www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/child-protection-report-a-concern
- If you are worried that an adult who has care and support needs is being hurt, neglected and/or abused contact 01305 221016 (Mon-Fri 8.30-5pm) or outside normal opening hours 01305 221000

Declaration

Thornhackett Parish Council is fully committed to safeguarding the well-being of children and adults with care and support needs by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional harm and neglect.

All members of the Parish Council should be proactive in providing a safe environment for children and adults with care and support needs who are involved in Council activities.

Policy Adopted

Review

DRAFT