

WHITEPARISH PARISH COUNCIL

CHILD PROTECTION AND VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY

Policy Statement

Whiteparish Parish Council is committed to ensuring that children and vulnerable adults are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are engaged in any activity associated with the Parish Council.

Policy Objective:

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 people.

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.

To develop procedures in recording and responding to accidents and complaints and to alleged or suspected incidents of abuse and neglect.

As the Parish Council does not directly provide care or supervision services to children, it expects all children using its facilities to do so with the consent and the necessary supervision of a parent or other responsible adult.

Aims

The aim of this policy document is to guide members of Whiteparish Parish Council should any child protection issue arise during their work.

Responsibilities & Procedures

The Parish Council will ensure that:

- Before any Parish Council organised event with children or vulnerable persons, participants are briefed appropriately.
- Members are aware of the risk they may face in certain circumstances whilst carrying out their duties.
- Whilst Council members are unlikely to be involved with children during the performance of their duties they are mindful of the risk they face.
- Before any volunteers or paid members of staff are recruited to work with children and vulnerable persons they are interviewed and two references taken up.
- All new councillors are to be provided with a copy of the child protection policy and are required to acknowledge they will abide by it.
- Records will be kept in an incident book of any allegations a young person may make to any committee member or volunteer. Incident book to be presented to the Parish Council full meeting for inspection, further action as appropriate and future risk assessment. Incidents will be reported to the Police.

Councillors will adhere to the 'List of Recommended Behaviour' if supervising children and vulnerable adults at Parish Council events namely:

- A minimum of two adults present when supervising children.
- Not to play physical contact games.
- Adults to wear appropriate clothing at all times
- Ensure that accidents are recorded in an accident book.
- Never do anything of a personal nature for a young person.

Facilities offered by the Parish Council will be inspected on a regular basis and at least annually by a representative of RoSPA or a similar organisation.

Declaration

Whiteparish Parish Council is fully committed to safeguarding the well-being of children by protecting them from physical, sexual, emotional harm and neglect. All members of Whiteparish Parish Council should read the Council's Child Protection Policy. Having read the Policy they should be proactive in providing a safe environment for children and vulnerable people who are involved in Parish Council activities. As the Parish Council does not directly provide care or supervision services to children, it expects all children using its facilities to do so with the consent and the necessary supervision of a parent or other responsible adult, and at their own risk. This Policy will be reviewed periodically.

Adopted 06.03.18

Reviewed 28.07.26