



## STREET PARISH COUNCIL

### Child Protection Policy

**Adopted: June 2016**

**Reviewed: February 2023**

**Next Review: February 2025**

### Policy Statement

Street Parish Council recognises the importance of child protection and is committed to ensuring that children and vulnerable people are safeguarded whilst engaged in any activity associated with the Parish Council.

### Aim

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

### Objectives

The objectives are:

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 people.
2. To promote the safeguarding, health, development and wellbeing of children and vulnerable people by being aware of child protection issues and personal safety education.
3. Require all children using its facilities to do so with the consent and necessary supervision of a parent or other responsible person.
4. Hold agreed procedures for recording and responding effectively to accidents/complaints and any allegations or suspected incidents of abuse.

### Responsibilities and Procedures

The responsibilities and procedures are:

A Child Protection Officer, in this instance, Councillor A Leafe, will be appointed from within the Council and will be responsible for the following:

- Reviewing safeguarding aspects of any Parish Council activity involving children and vulnerable people.
- Reviewing the Child Protection Policy annually to ensure it is fit for purpose.

- Briefing members and employees, as necessary, to ensure awareness of risk proportionate to their duties.

A Parish Councillor and employee should hold a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check where appropriate or necessary.

All Parish Council members and employees will be provided with a copy of the Child Protection Policy and are required to acknowledge they will adhere to it.

Parish Council facilities are inspected regularly, and annually by ROSPA or similar organisation. All Parish Council members and employees will adhere to the list of recommended behaviours if/when supervising children:

- A minimum of two people present.
- Not to participate in physical contact games.
- To always wear appropriate clothing.
- No member should be in an enclosed space e.g., room/shed/toilet on their own with a child.
- In the event of an accident, another adult should be present and where safe and practicable a door should remain open.
- Never do anything of a personal nature for a child or vulnerable person.

In the event of a suspected incident of child abuse it should be reported to the designated Child Protection Officer who will ensure it is handled in accordance with the local Safeguarding Board procedures. All councillors and employees have an individual duty of care as responsible adults to notify the appropriate authority without delay if child abuse is disclosed to them, or if they identify recognised signs and symptoms of child abuse.

## **Declaration**

Street Parish Council is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of children and vulnerable people by protecting them where possible from physical, sexual, emotional harm and neglect.

All members and employees of Street Parish Council should read the Child Protection Policy and be proactive in providing a safe environment for children and vulnerable people when carrying out their Parish Council duties.