

## SAFEGUARDING POLICY

This Safeguarding Policy was adopted by the Parish Council at its meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 (minute 8/2022/7.3 page 713)

This policy will enable Barwick and Scholes Parish Council to demonstrate its commitment to keeping safe vulnerable adults, children and young people in the community.

### **Policy Statement**

The policy is in place in order for councillors to work, to prevent abuse and know what to do should a concern arise. They will enable the Parish Council to:

- Promote good practice and work in a way that can prevent harm and abuse occurring.
- Ensure that any allegations of abuse or suspicions are dealt with appropriately and the person experiencing the abuse is supported.

### **Definitions**

Children and young people:

Anyone under the age of 18 years

Vulnerable Adult:

- Anyone over 18 who is:
- Unable to care for themselves
- Unable to protect themselves from significant harm or exploitation
- Or may be in need of community care services

### **Responsibilities of the Parish Council**

- To accept the moral and legal responsibility to implement procedures, to provide a Duty of Care for children, young people and adults at risk of abuse, safeguard their wellbeing and protect them from abuse.
- To raise awareness of safeguarding to ensure that everyone can play their part in preventing and identifying and responding to abuse and neglect.
- To ensure that all councilors, volunteers and any paid members of staff are familiar with the policy and any associated procedures.
- To work with other agencies within the framework of both the Local Safeguarding Board (LSCB) and the Leeds Safeguarding Board.
- To act within its confidentiality policy and will usually gain permission from adults before sharing information about them with another agency. The safeguarding of a child or an adult who is at risk or if a crime has been committed will override any need for consent.
- To ensure that all Councilors are provided with a copy of the safeguarding Policy and comply with the contents.

- To ensure all contractors/partners/Volunteers working directly with the Parish Council meets the safeguarding standards as expected by the Parish Council (A copy of this safeguarding policy must be given to any contractor/partner).
- To require all Councilors/volunteers and anyone paid to adopt and abide by this safeguarding policy and to understand their responsibilities therein.
- To monitor and evaluate the policy annually or in the light of any changes to Government legislation and guidance.
- To ensure there is a designated lead person for safeguarding in the Parish Council.
- To ensure as far as is reasonably practicable that everyone is safe and secure in any facility or environment the council provides or its facilities.
- DBS checks will be required if any Councilor, volunteer or paid member of staff is required to teach, train, instruct, care for or supervise children or a vulnerable person.
- To ensure records are kept of any referrals and any notes, records of conversations concerning that referral are kept in the folder and that it is stored in a secure place with limited access to designated people in line with GDPR .

### **Types of Abuse**

There are four main types of abuse: physical abuse, psychological and emotional abuse, sexual abuse and neglect. It is important to note that self-neglect is part of neglect.

### **Responding to Abuse or an Allegation**

#### **Allegations Made Against a Councilor/Volunteer/Paid Member of Staff**

This should be reported to the designated safeguarding lead. If appropriate, the designated safeguarding lead will consult with/make a referral to the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer 0113 3789687 (MON- FRI ) OR EMAIL: [lado@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:lado@leeds.gov.uk)  
**Please dial 999 if the person is in immediate danger.**

### **Safeguarding Lead**

The Safeguarding Lead is Cllr. Alex Cantelo as per Minute 9/2022/7.7 page 720