

# Wilbarston Parish Council

## Child Protection, Young Person and Vulnerable Adult Statement

Wilbarston Parish Council is committed to ensuring that children, young people and vulnerable adults are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are engaged in any activity associated with the Council and to establishing the following principles:

**1** This policy covers Parish Councillors, their staff and any volunteers working for them.

- ***Anyone under the age of 18 years is considered to be a child***
- The welfare of the child is paramount;
- All children, young people and vulnerable adults without exception, have the right to protection from abuse and for their rights, feelings and views to be respected.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately and reported for investigation to Northamptonshire Social and Health Care Department or the Police.

**2** **Aims**

- In line with these principles the Parish Council will aim to:
- Create a healthy and safe environment for all activities, where children, young people and vulnerable adults feel safe and secure
- Promote the general welfare, health and full development of children, young people and vulnerable adults during activities
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well-being of children, young people and vulnerable adults and protect them from abuse.
- Respect the rights, wishes and feelings of children, young people and vulnerable adults and ensure that they are listened to.
- Ensure that any allegations made by a child, young person and vulnerable adult are not allowed to go unchallenged, and that any allegations and suspicions are investigated by Northamptonshire County Council social and Health Care Department or the Police,
- Ensure that councillors, staff and volunteers are well informed, supported and enabled to provide the best possible practice
- Ensure that all new employees/volunteers who will work with, or come into contact with, children, young people and vulnerable adults in the course of their work activities will complete a disclosure form from the Disclosure and Barring Service to ensure that there are no irregularities in their background that may give cause for concern, i.e. a full DBS check will be needed.
- Ensure that all new employees/volunteers will be provided with the Child Protection, Young Person and Vulnerable Adult Statement and asked to sign to confirm that they understand it and will abide by it.

**3** ***The Parish Council will appoint a Child Protection, Young Person and Vulnerable Adult Officer who will ensure that procedures are put in place to enable the aims of the Parish Council to be met and to initiate appropriate action should any allegation of improper conduct be made.***

***The Council's Child Protection Officer is The Clerk to Wilbarston Parish Council***  
Adopted by Full Council on November 2015

Readopted 10th June 2021 - Minute Reference 21/100