



## **SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT**

### **Introduction**

All of us have a duty to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults. Botus Fleming Parish Council is committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of these individuals, and to ensuring that they are protected and kept safe from physical, sexual, and emotional harm and neglect while they are engaged in any activity associated with the Council.

All staff and volunteers coming into contact with children are required to have an awareness of safeguarding.

Persons applying for a position with the Parish Council are required to support the safeguarding policy and principles of the Council.

### **Policy application**

This responsibility applies to all Council employees and Members. It also applies to contractors, partners and volunteers (& Community Action team) who carry out work on behalf of the Parish Council in a paid or voluntary role, or are commissioned to do so with or on behalf of, children, young people and adults at risk.

### **Who is vulnerable ?**

Those in a vulnerable position are defined as:-

- children and young people – anyone under the age of 18 years
- vulnerable adults – anyone over 18 who is;
  - (i) unable to care for themselves
  - (ii) unable to protect themselves from significant harm
  - (iii) may be in need of community care services

### **Promoting a safe environment**

In order to promote a safe environment, the Parish Council is committed to fostering a safeguarding culture in its activity areas and through its recruitment practices. To achieve this, the Council will:-

- Provide safe facilities and undertake regular safety Risk Assessments.
- Ensure that employees and Councillors are aware of the safeguarding expectations.
- Ensure that candidates applying for jobs are made aware of the Council's commitment to safeguarding and are expected to support this commitment if appointed.
- Display on notice boards the relevant safeguarding contacts for advice and help.

- Ensure that attendees at functions, eg. Big Event or Fireworks evening, are aware that parents are responsible for their children's safety and the location of a dedicated safe place for lost children is made available.
- Ensure any leaders of workshops run by the Council (where children, young people or adults who may be at risk are involved) are enhanced DBS checked.

### **Allegations**

Employees, Members and volunteers all have a duty to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults but are not responsible for deciding whether abuse is taking place. No attempt shall be made to investigate or take action before consulting with the designated Authority.

All staff and volunteers should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a child or vulnerable adult.

Any allegation made against a member of staff or volunteer, the person receiving the allegation will immediately inform the Chair of the Parish Council.

### **Concerns**

Should they have concerns, these should be passed on to the Parish Clerk, Chairman or direct to the Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU) at Cornwall Council.

Staff and volunteers should be concerned by any action or inaction which significantly harms the physical or emotional development of a child or vulnerable adult. Abuse falls into four categories:-

- physical abuse
- emotional abuse
- neglect
- sexual abuse

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