

Foulden Parish Council

(to include Foulden Village Hall, Recreation Ground and Former Highways Surveyors)

Safeguarding Policy

1.0 Introduction and Purpose

- 1.1 The welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount. All organisations including charities have to comply with the law regarding the protection and safeguarding of children and adults at risk.
- 1.2 The purpose of this document is to define the policy and procedures that apply to the business of Foulden Parish Council and its charities where it is sole trustee.

2.0 Definition of Terms Used

- 2.1 CHILD - A child is anyone under the age of 18.
- 2.2 ADULT AT RISK - The Law Commission Report into Adult Social Care (2011) defined an Adult at Risk as a person who:
- must appear to have health or social care needs, including carers (irrespective of whether or not those needs are being met by services)
 - must appear to be at risk of **harm**
 - must appear to be unable to safeguard themselves from harm as a direct result of their health or social care needs.
- 2.3 SAFEGUARDING - Safeguarding is defined in "Working Together to Safeguard Children" 2013 as:
- protecting children from maltreatment
 - preventing impairment of children's health and development
 - ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and
 - taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes
- 2.4 ABUSE OF A CHILD - The NSPCC have identified specific forms of abuse which may be perpetrated against a child. These are defined as:
- Bullying
 - Emotional abuse
 - Physical abuse
 - Child trafficking
 - Neglect
 - Sexual abuse
- 2.5 ABUSE OF AN ADULT - The Law Commission's Report into Adult Social Care defines harm as including but not limited to:
- ill treatment (including sexual abuse, exploitation and forms of ill treatment which are not physical)

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Safeguarding Policy

- the impairment of health (physical or mental) or development (physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural)
- self-harm and neglect
- unlawful conduct which adversely affects property, rights or interests (for example, financial abuse).

3.0 Principles of our Policy

- 3.1** Children and vulnerable adults (adults at risk) have a right to use the Village Hall and Recreational Ground protected and free from abuse of any kind regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs.
- 3.2** The Trustees of Foulden Village Hall and Recreational Ground have a duty to safeguard the children and vulnerable adults who use their facilities.
- 3.3** This policy applies to all Trustees and all users of the Village Hall and Recreational Ground.
- 3.4** The policy will be reviewed and approved annually and whenever there is a change in the laws or published guidelines.
- 3.5** The policy will be available to anyone via the councils website www.fouldennorfolk.org site or by request to the Parish Council Clerk.
- 3.6** Anyone with a conviction for a sexual offence against a child or vulnerable adult, whenever it was committed, is not considered suitable as a Trustee or Councillor.
- 3.7** All concerns and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by Foulden Parish Council and responded to appropriately - this may require a referral to social services and in emergencies, the police

4.0 Responsibilities

- 4.1** All users of the Village Hall and Recreational Ground are responsible for reporting suspicions of abuse using the contact details below.
- 4.2** The Parish Council Clerk should be advised of any safeguarding incidents on the village hall or Recreational Ground so that the appropriate preventive action can be taken if necessary. Confidentiality will be observed but information sharing will be necessary if a child or adult is deemed to be at risk of harm.

5.0 Reporting Suspicions of Abuse

For concerns regarding children, contact:

Tel: Norfolk County Council Services on **0344 800 8020**

For concerns regarding adults, contact:

Tel: Norfolk County Council Services on **0344 800 8020**

Foulden Parish Council

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Safeguarding Policy

NSPCC Child Protection
or

0808 800 5000 or textphone: 0800 056 0566

email: help@nspcc.org.uk

Child Exploitation and Online
Protection (CEOP) Centre

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Ceop-Report/>

6.0 DBS Checks

- 6.1 Anyone who is involved in regulated activity (as defined by law) with children or vulnerable adults requires a DBS check.
- 6.2 Councillors/ trustees are not in regulated activity as part of their responsibilities and do not require checks.
- 6.3 Certain hirers who provide services to children will be included in the definition of regulated activity. They will be required to provide a copy of their Safeguarding Policy and proof of DBS clearance annually when their letting is negotiated.

7.0 Lettings

- 7.1 Hirers will be made aware that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film on show.
- 7.2 No gambling or entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is permitted on the premises.
- 7.3 Organisations hiring the hall for activities for children/vulnerable adults will be asked to show their Safeguarding Policy before the first booking commences. Individuals hiring the hall for activities for children/vulnerable adults will be made aware of the Village Hall Safeguarding Policy.
- 7.4 In addition, any individual or group hiring the hall to provide a facility for children (playgroups, football training, youth clubs for example) will be required to show their DBS clearance to the Village Hall Manager and the disclosure number will be recorded. Any delegation of that hirer to other people to supervise the children is the responsibility of the hirer and the Village Hall Manager will not vet these delegates for DBS clearance. The only exception to this is when the hall is hired out for private parties.

8.0 Extremism and the Prevent Duty

- 8.1 Councillors/Trustees will not permit the facilities to be used for any extremist activity.
- 8.2 Any suspicions of terrorism should be reported to the police anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789321 or online at <https://www.met.police.uk/tua/tell-us-about/>.

9.0 Other Safeguarding Issues

- 9.1 Below are some of the other areas that we need to be alert to in terms of safeguarding the more vulnerable in our community:

Online sexual exploitation of children
County lines (drug trafficking using people in rural areas) Child
trafficking

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Safeguarding Policy

8.0 Other Relevant Policies

- Health & Safety
- Equality & Diversity
- Code of Conduct for Trustees

Date for review: March 2021