



BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Introduction

In the interests of child protection and the welfare and protection of vulnerable adults, Brizlincote Parish Council is committed to ensuring that children and vulnerable adults are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are engaged in any activity associated with the Parish Council.

Policy objective

- To ensure that where possible all events and activities organised by or on behalf of the Parish Council are designed and maintained to reduce the risk to children and vulnerable adults.
- To promote the general welfare, health and development of children by being aware of child protection issues and to be able to respond where appropriate as a local government organisation.
- To develop procedures in recording and responding to accidents and complaints and to alleged or suspected incidents of abuse and neglect.
- As the Parish Council does not directly provide care or supervision services to children and vulnerable adults, it expects all children and vulnerable adults attending its events/activities to do so with the necessary supervision of a parent, carer or other responsible adult as required.

Aims

The aim of this policy document is to guide members of Brizlincote Parish Council should any child protection issue or any issues with vulnerable adults arise during their work.

Responsibilities and procedures

The Clerk is the Parish Councils appointed safeguarding officer and his/her responsibilities will include:-

- Ensuring that before any Parish Council organised event with children or vulnerable persons, the Designated Safeguarding Lead for that event briefs participants appropriately.
- Ensuring that members are aware of the risk they may face in certain circumstances whilst carrying out their duties
- Ensuring that whilst Council members are unlikely to be involved with children during the performance of their duties, they are mindful of the risk they face
- Decisions on whether any person should be DBS checked will be made by the Council or the Chairman after consultation with the Clerk following a risk assessment
- All Councillors are to be provided with a copy of the Safeguarding Policy
- Councillors will adhere to the 'List of Recommended Behaviour' namely:-
 - A minimum of two adults present when supervising children
 - Not to play physical contact games
 - Adults to wear appropriate clothing at all times
 - Ensure that accidents are recorded in an accident book
 - Never to do anything of a personal nature for a young person

- Keep records of any incidents or allegations a person may make to any committee member or volunteer
- Refer cases of suspected abuse or allegations to the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will be responsible for ensuring the matter is handled in accordance with SCC procedures

Allegations against staff, councillors and volunteers

- All staff, councillors and volunteers should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a child or vulnerable adult
- If an allegation is made, the person receiving the allegation will immediately inform the Chair of the Parish Council who will investigate accordingly.