

Manton Parish Council, Rutland
Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults (“Safeguarding”) Policy 2022

SECTION 1

Policy Statement

Everyone has a duty to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults. This policy promotes good practice in safeguarding for those using Manton Parish Council facilities including the playing field, parish wood and cemetery.

The Parish Council will review the Policy annually.

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
- In need of community care services

Abuse

Abuse falls into five main categories as follows:

1. Physical Abuse
2. Emotional Abuse
3. Sexual Abuse
4. Neglect
5. Financial Abuse/Manipulation

To whom this policy applies

This policy applies to anyone working for or on behalf of the Parish Council whether in a paid, voluntary or commissioned capacity, for example contracted to do a piece of work.

It also applies to any individual using the Parish Council facilities where children, young people or vulnerable adults may be present.

SECTION 2

Promoting a safe environment

In order to promote a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults, the Parish Council will:

- Provide safe facilities and do regular safety assessments.

- Ensure that Councillors, any employees and leaders of activities in the parish or in/on parish facilities, are aware of the safeguarding expectations.
- Ensure that members of the Parish Council and volunteers who have regular unsupervised contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults during the course of their duties MUST undergo appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service (“DBS”) checks BEFORE commencement of such duties.
- Display on Parish Council notice boards in the village the Safeguarding Policy and relevant safeguarding contacts for advice and help. A copy will also be made available on the Parish Council website.

Expectations of behaviour

Parish Councillors must be aware of their Code of Conduct document.

All users of Parish Council facilities and those involved in events organised by the Parish Council should:

- Ensure that communications, behaviour and interaction are appropriate.
- Treat each other with respect and show consideration for other groups using the Parish Council facilities.
- Refrain from any behaviour that involves racism, sexism, homophobia, and bullying and in addition, report any instances of such behaviour to the Chair of the Parish Council, Parish Clerk or parents/carers, as appropriate.
- Never leave children, young people or vulnerable adults with adults to whom they are not related and/or who are not well known to the parents/carer.
- Ensure that photos or videos of individuals are not taken without the permission of their parents/carers.

SECTION 3

Allegations against Parish Council members and others

All Parish Councillors, staff and volunteers should be aware of their duty to raise concerns about the attitude or actions of colleagues and take appropriate advice from the Leicester and Rutland Association of Local Councils. Councillors and occasional staff and volunteers should be concerned by any action or inaction, which significantly harms the physical and/or emotional development of a child.

The Parish Council is committed to ensuring the safety of all users of its services and facilities and takes its responsibilities seriously.