

# **GILDERSOME PARISH COUNCIL**

## **SAFE GUARDING POLICY**

Gildersome Parish Council acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard children, and vulnerable young people or adults while they are engaged in an activity associated with the Parish Council.

The purpose of this Policy is to protect and promote the welfare of the children and young people attending Parish Council events, and to support the Councillors, its officers and volunteers in fulfilling their statutory responsibilities. Gildersome Parish Council is not a Children's Services Authority, and it is not the role of the Council to investigate allegations of abuse. However all Councillors, employees and volunteers have a clear responsibility to inform the safeguarding officer when they suspect or recognise when a child, young person, or vulnerable adult may be a victim of harm or abuse.

### **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 harm or exploitation
- Or may be in need of community care services

### **To whom this policy applies**

This policy applies to anyone working for or on behalf of Gildersome Parish Council whether in a paid, elected or voluntary capacity.

### **Promoting a safe environment**

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

- Ensure, where possible, that all facilities and events offered by

the Parish Council limit risk to children and vulnerable adults.

- Ask that parents/carers supervise their children at all Parish Council events.
  - Maintain channels of communication with leaders of groups involving children and young people.
  - Ensure that employees, councillors and volunteers are aware of safeguarding expectations.
  - Seek to promote the welfare and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults living in Gildersome at all times.
  - Deal with any concern raised by a councillor, employee, volunteer or member of the public appropriately and sensitively.
  - Appoint one councillor to be as a designated safeguarding officer.
  - Prevent abuse by using good practice to create a safe and healthy environment, and avoid situations where abuse or allegations of abuse could occur.
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- Review this Policy annually, in conjunction with the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

**Adopted by Gildersome Parish Council on Date: 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**Review date: April 2019 ( to coincide with the Code of Conduct)**