



# **Fremington Parish Council Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy**

Date of Review	Change Description	Minute No.
30 <sup>th</sup> April 2015	Review	1504/50
28 <sup>th</sup> April 2016	Review	1604/63
25 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Review	1705/60
24 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Review	1805/68
30 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	Review	1905/74

## **1. Purpose**

1.1 Everyone has a responsibility for safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults. Fremington Parish Council acknowledges its duty of care to those using its premises, equipment and facilities both indoor and outdoor. The Council will, as far as reasonably possible, establish a safe environment in which children can play and feel safe. All members of Fremington Parish Council have a duty to safeguard vulnerable users of parish facilities and those who may come into contact with vulnerable users. This policy applies to all staff, councillors, contractors and volunteers.

## **1.2 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
- Adults with learning, mental health or physical difficulties
- Frail elderly people
- Or may be in need of community care services

## **2. Policy**

2.1 Staff and councillors will adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse, and minimise risk to themselves.

2.2 Any suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child or vulnerable adult will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily, appropriately and inline with this policy.

2.3 The Council will, in exercising its statutory functions, ensure to the best of its ability that the welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All children and vulnerable adults, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect. Bullying, shouting, physical violence, sexism and racism towards children or vulnerable adults will not be permitted or tolerated.

2.4 The council will ensure that young people and vulnerable adults are welcome to any public council meetings and will feel safe and secure in the environment.

2.5 The staff and councillors will assist anybody who is unable to read any notices at the meetings and with any physical difficulties, where possible, to attend the meetings.

2.6 The Council will ensure that photos and/or videos of children are not taken without written permission from parents/carers.

2.7 All staff, councillors, contractors and volunteers will be made aware of this policy and expected to take their role seriously in protecting young people and vulnerable adults.

2.8 Should any staff, councillors, contractors or volunteers be found to purposefully neglect their duties under this policy, action will be taken as necessary.

**3. Reporting incidents**

- 3.1 The Parish Council's nominated Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult representative is the Clerk, they will have responsibility for reporting any concerns that arise to the local authority and/or Police as necessary.

**Adopted September 2014**