

## **Burton upon Stather Parish Council**

### **Safeguarding Policy for Vulnerable Adults Adopted January 2017**

#### **1.0 Statement.**

1.1 It is the policy of Burton upon Stather Parish Council to safeguard the welfare of all vulnerable adults by protecting them from abuse, exploitation or harm. The aim of this document is to prevent this and support individuals to come forward to report any suspect abuse no matter how seemingly trivial.

#### **2.0 Introduction.**

2.1 Everyone has a duty to safeguard vulnerable adults. This policy outlines practice that will promote the safety of vulnerable adults using or working on Parish Council facilities. The policy will be reviewed by the Parish Council regularly.

#### **3.0 Definitions.**

3.1 Vulnerable Adult: anyone over the age of 18 who is:-

In need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and who is or may be unable to take care of him or her self, or unable to protect him or her self against significant harm or exploitation.

3.2 Views on what constitute abuse or neglect should not be limited as it can take many forms such as: - Physical, Emotional, Sexual, Neglect, Discrimination, Financial. Any abuse should be reported

#### **4.0 To whom this Policy applies.**

4.1 This policy applies to anyone working for or on behalf of Burton upon Stather Parish Council whether in a paid, voluntary or commissioned capacity.

4.2 Staff and Volunteers should be concerned by any behaviour, action or inaction, which significantly harms the physical and/or emotional development of a vulnerable adult

## **5.0 Promoting a safe environment.**

5.1 In order to promote a safe environment for vulnerable adults, Burton upon Stather Parish Council wishes to promote a safeguarding culture in its premises and activity area. In order to achieve this Burton upon Stather Parish Council will:-

5.2 Provide safe facilities and undertake regular safety assessments.

5.3 Ensure that employees and councillors are aware of the safeguarding expectations.

5.4 Make available on public notice boards and to employees and councillors, the contact details of the following:-

- A) North Lincolnshire Council Social Services Safeguarding Adults Team  
Daytime – 01724 297979  
Out of hours – 01724 298190
  
- B) Learning Disability  
Daytime – 01724 298000  
Out of hours – 01724 298190
  
- C) Social Care Emergency Duty Team (EDT) – 01724 297979
  
- D) Physical Disability Services – 01724 298000
  
- E) Mental Health services –  
Daytime – 01724 275959  
Out of hours – 0808 0800 1010
  
- F) Social Services (Adults) out of hours – 01724 298190
  
- G) Humberside Police – 0845 60 60 222 or 101
  
- H) North Lincolnshire and Goole Hospitals Trust – Scunthorpe – 01724 282282
  
- I) Care Quality Commission Yorkshire and Humberside – 03000 616161

4.5 Employees, Councillors and volunteers all have a duty to protect vulnerable adults but are not responsible for deciding whether abuse is taking place. If they have concerns, these should be passed on to the Local Social Care Emergency Duty Team (EDT) as soon as possible.

## **6.0 Allegations against staff and volunteers**

6.1 All employees, councillors and volunteers should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a vulnerable adult and should try and ensure where possible that a third party is present.

6.2 Any allegation of abuse of a vulnerable adult made against a member of the council or anyone working on its behalf should be reported to the Chairman of the Parish Council who will decide on the course of action to be taken. Should the allegation be lodged against the Chairman then the Clerk will decide on what action to be taken and vice versa. Where necessary the Safeguarding Adult Protection Team should be contacted. All allegations should be recorded at the time. It is not the responsibility of the council to investigate whether or not abuse has taken place that is for other agencies to determine.

## **7.0 Whistleblowing.**

7.1 The council recognise that vulnerable adults cannot be expected to raise concerns in an environment where others fail to do so. It is important that all personnel should be aware of their duty to raise concerns about the attitude or actions of colleagues. It may be very hard for a worker to report a concern about a colleague to a superior but the safety and protection of a vulnerable adult must be the priority in any decision made. Appropriate advice should be sought from the Adult Safeguarding Team.

**Signed**

**Chairman**

**30 January 2017**