



Earl Shilton Town Council
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Safeguarding Children and vulnerable Adults Policy for Earl Shilton Town Council.

Title	Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy for Earl Shilton Town Council
Version	1.1
Date Approved	This policy comes into force from June 2020
Applicable to	All employees and members of the Earl Shilton Town Council

The Town Council wishes to uphold the highest standards of safeguarding for vulnerable adults and children.

Earl Shilton Town Council recognises that there is a need to provide particular care for those whose vulnerability is increased by situations, by disabilities or by reduction in capacities. It is recognised that this increased vulnerability may be temporary or permanent and may be visible or invisible.

This policy addresses the safeguarding of children, young people, and vulnerable adults. It is intended to support the Town Council bringing about and maintaining a safe supportive and caring community.

Earl Shilton Town Council recognises the serious issue of the abuse of children and vulnerable adults and recognises that this may take the form of physical, emotional, sexual, financial, spiritual, or institutional abuse or neglect. It acknowledges the effects these behaviours may have on people and their development. It accepts its responsibility for ensuring that all people are safe in its care and that their dignity and right to be heard is maintained. It accepts its responsibility to support, listen to and work for healing with survivors, offenders, communities, and those who care about them. It takes seriously the issues of promotion of welfare so that each of us can reach our full potential. The welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.

The Town Council commits itself to respond without delay to any allegation or cause for concern that a child or vulnerable adult may have been harmed, whether on Council premises or in another context. It commits itself to challenge the abuse of power of anyone in a position of trust.

The Town Council commits itself to ensuring the implementation of government legislation and guidance and safe practice in the adjacent Church premises or property owned by the Council, e.g. public parks, especially the play equipment areas. The Town Council commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for the staff and Councillors that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and

responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable

The Town Council will support the task of those who are workers with children and vulnerable adults and acknowledges the shared responsibility of all of us for safeguarding who are on our premises or wider afield in the Town.

The Council appoints **Mr Mark E Jackson** as Earl Shilton Town Council (Adult Representative and Safeguarding Children Coordinator and supports him in his role which is to:

- i) Support and advise the Councillors and the staff in fulfilling their roles.
- ii) Provide a point of reference to advice on safeguarding issues.
- iii) Liaise with Borough and County Council Coordinators.
- iv) Promote safeguarding best practise within the Town with the support of Councillors and staff.

a) Purpose

The purposes of this safeguarding policy are to ensure procedures are in place and people are clear about roles and responsibilities for vulnerable adults in our care and using our premises. It is to be read in conjunction with the latest statute law and guidelines.

b) Good Practise

We believe good practise means that:

- i) All people are treated with respect and dignity.
- ii) Those who act on behalf of the Town Council should not meet or work alone with a child or vulnerable adult where the activity cannot be seen unless this is necessary as an imperative, in which case a written evidence of this will be made and kept noting date, time and place of the occurrence.
- iii) The Town Council premises will be assessed for safety for children and vulnerable adults and the risk assessment report will be as appropriate subordinate to the Earl Shilton Methodist Church in written form. This will include fire safety procedures. The Town Council will consider the extent to which the premises and equipment are suitable or should be made more suitable.
- iv) Any Town Council transport of children or vulnerable adults will be checked to ensure the vehicle is suitable and insured and that the driver and escort are appropriate.
- v) Promotion of safeguarding is recognised to include undertaking those tasks which enable all to reach their full potential.

This policy document is to safeguard those working with children, young people and those adults who may be vulnerable.

c) Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) clearance

Satisfactory DBS (previously CRB) disclosure is required for all indoor staff due to their location i.e. proximity to the Pelican Playgroup and the residents who present themselves to the office for help and advice.

d) Town Council Sponsored Events in the Town

Where Council events happen, safeguarding is the responsibility of the Town Council. Adequate staffing will be ensured for such events.

e) Other groups on Town Council

Where a Council park is hired for outside use, the person signing the letting agreement, which should include Safeguarding Form E, will be given a copy of this policy and the leaflet. The Town Clerk will consider the various users of the park or public open space.

f) Complaints procedure

It is hoped that complaints can generally be dealt with at the lowest level, but all Councillors will be informed. A complaint may be made to a person who will be appointed by the Town Council and who is currently **Mr Mark E Jackson**. If a complaint is made to another person, it should be passed to **Mr Mark E Jackson** who will arrange to meet with the complainant and attempt to resolve the complaint. If the complaint is against **Mr Mark E Jackson** the complaint should be assessed to the Town Mayor and or Chairman of the Town Council Staffing Committee. If the complaint cannot be resolved, consideration will be given to invoking the complaints procedure of the Town Council which will involve initially raising the matter at Full Council, if necessary, as a 'private session' confidential item.

g) Review

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice. This policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the Town Council. The date of the next review is June 2022.

h) Key Concepts and definitions

i) Vulnerable Adults: any adult aged 18 or over who, by reason of mental or other disability, age, illness or other situation is permanently or for the time being unable to take care of her or himself, or to protect her or himself from significant harm or exploitation.

ii) Safeguarding and protecting children or vulnerable adults from maltreatment; preventing impairment of their health and ensuring safe and effective care.

iii) Adult/child protection is a part of safeguarding and promoting welfare. This refers to the activity which is undertaken to protect children/specific adults who are suffering or are at risk of suffering significant harm, including neglect.

iv) Abuse and neglect may occur in a family, in a community and in an institution. It may be perpetrated by a person or persons known to the child or vulnerable adult or by strangers: by an adult or by a child. It may be an infliction of harm or a failure to prevent harm.

v) In cases of emergency or immediate harm *always* call 999.

Dated: 04 Jun 20

Signed: 

Cllr. Christine Coe Town Mayor & Chairman of the Town Council

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