MARCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults Policy

Everyone has a duty to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults. Marchington Parish Council is committed to ensuring that children and adults are protected from harm whilst they are using the Parish Council facilities described within this policy.

This policy applies to:

anyone working for or on behalf of the Parish Council whether in a paid, voluntary or commissioned capacity.

The children's play areas and football fields situated at Silver Lane and Forest side Marchington, are owned by Marchington Parish Council. The land on which Marchington Village Hall is built is owned by the Parish Council. The Village Hall has a Management Committee of Trustees, who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the hall and its long-term viability. Similarly, Marchington Cricket Ground & Pavilion is owned by Marchington Parish Council and leased to Uttoxeter Cricket Club who are responsible for management of the premises and activities at the club.

Marchington Parish Council has no specific person, either Councillors or staff members who are involved in the care of children or adults at the facilities listed above, but will ensure that, should a concern arise, the correct procedures related to this policy are followed.

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.
- Or may need community care services.

Safeguarding

- Essentially, protecting children and adults at risk from ill treatment and harm.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

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

- Provide safe facilities and ensure regular safety assessments are undertaken.
- Ensure that employees, Councillors and leaders of activities using parish council facilities, are aware of safeguarding expectations.
- Display on notice boards the relevant safeguarding contacts for advice and help.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR USERS OF PARISH COUNCIL FACILITIES

- Treat each other with respect.
- Show consideration for other groups using the facilities.
- Treat the facilities provided with due care and respect.
- Provide an example of good conduct that you wish others to follow.
- Refrain from any behaviour that involves racism, sexism and bullying and in addition to report any instances of such behaviour to group leaders, Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk or parents and carers, as appropriate.

TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFEGUARDING

Parish Councillors, employees and volunteers may notice something which causes them concern when out and about in the parish. It is not our role to investigate any signs of abuse. However, we do have a responsibility to act if we have any concerns and alert those who can look into those issues. To take responsibility for safeguarding Marchington Parish Council will:

- Identify someone within the Parish Council who will take lead responsibility for Safeguarding, ensuring that parish councillors and employees understand what safeguarding means, what to look out for and how to pass on any concerns.
- Follow safe recruitment practices, including application forms, references and induction.
- Identify and meet training needs for those parish councillors and employees who come into contact with children and vulnerable adults.
- Ensure that parish councillors and employees who come into regular unsupervised contact with children and vulnerable adults during the course of their duties to undergo appropriate Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checks.
- Require external organisations working with or on behalf of the council who have contact with children and vulnerable adults to have a copy of the Safeguarding Policy and procedures.

Should Parish Councillors, employees and volunteers be concerned by any behaviour, action or inaction which harms a child or vulnerable adult. If they are unsure whether this needs to be reported as a safeguarding concern, they should seek the advice of the person within the Parish Council with lead responsibility.

HOW TO REPORT A CONCERN

Contact	**Telephone**
Designated Safeguarding Lead is Cllr. Helen Bullock	cllrbullock@gmail.com
Safeguarding Children **Staffordshire County Council** www.staffordshire.gov.uk/reportconcern	Phone: 0800 131 3126 (free from a landline) Monday - Thursday* 8:30am - 5pm Friday: 8:30am - 4:30pm *Excludes bank holidays Out of Hours: 0345 604 2886 (for emergencies only)
Safeguarding Adults **Staffordshire County Council** www.staffordshire.gov.uk/reportconcern	Phone: 0345 604 2719 Monday - Thursday* 8:30am - 5pm Friday: 8:30am - 4:30pm *Excludes Bank Holidays Out of hours: 0345 604 2886 (for emergencies only)
NSPCC	0808 800 5000

If you think a child, young person or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger – don't delay call the police on 999

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