ROGATE PARISH COUNCIL

Child Protection Policy

Rogate Parish Council is fully committed to ensuring that children and vulnerable adults are protected and kept safe from harm whilst they are engaged in any activity associated with the Parish Council - safeguarding the well-being of children by protecting them from physical, sexual, emotional harm and neglect. All members of Rogate Parish Council should read the Council's Child Protection Policy. Having read the policy, they should be proactive in providing a safe environment for children and vulnerable people who are involved in Parish Council activities. This policy will be reviewed annually.

Policy Objective: To ensure that where possible all facilities and activities offered by the Parish Council are designed and maintained to limit risk to children and vulnerable people. To promote the general welfare, health and development of children by being aware of child protection issues and to be able to respond where appropriate as a local government organisation. To develop procedures in recording and responding to accidents and complaints and to alleged or suspected incidents of abuse and neglect. As the Parish Council does not directly provide care or supervision services to children, it expects all children using its facilities to do so with the consent and the necessary supervision of a parent or other responsible adult.

Aims: The aim of this policy document is to guide members of Rogate Parish Council should any child protection issue arise during their work.

Responsibilities & Procedures: To ensure that Council members are aware of the risk they may face in certain circumstances whilst carrying out their duties. Ensuring that whilst members are unlikely to be involved with children during the performance of their duties, they are mindful of the risk they face.

All Councillors are to be provided with a copy of the Child Protection Policy and are required to abide by it. Councillors will adhere to the 'List of Recommended Behaviour' namely:

- A minimum of two adults present when supervising children.
- Not to play physical contact games.
- Adults to wear appropriate clothing at all times
- Ensure that accidents are recorded in an accident book.
- Never do anything of a personal nature for a young person.

Keep records in an incident book of any allegations a young person may make to any member or volunteer. Incident book to be presented to the Parish Council full meeting for inspection

If there is a child abuse incident it should be reported to the Child Protection Officer who will be responsible for ensuring the matter is handled in accordance with the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and also referred to the Council for further action as appropriate and future risk assessment. Facilities offered by the Parish Council have been inspected on a regular basis and at least annually by a representative of RoSPA or a similar organisation. Sharing information about child protection and good practice with partner organisations, councillors, employees, volunteers, parents and carers. In the event of a contractor, working directly for the Parish Council, being deemed to be working in any area where children may be at risk, then that contractor will be asked to provide their Child Protection Policy.

	Date	**Minute ref**
Adopted	9 January 2023	16j)