BARBON VILLAGE HALL. (Charity No:523051)

Safeguarding Policy

This policy defines how Barbon Village Hall operates to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk of abuse or neglect. Barbon Village Hall Trustees have a duty of care and are committed to the protection, safety and harm prevention of everyone who uses the Village Hall including children, young people and adults deemed to be at risk. Any abuse of children and vulnerable adults will not be permitted or tolerated and appropriate intervention will be taken. There is no excuse for not taking reasonable action to protect all people deemed to be at risk from abuse or neglect reflected in the Human Rights Act 1998. Barbon Village Hall Trustees have a zero tolerance approach to all forms of abuse. They also recognise that they have a duty of care for the protection of all who enter the Village Hall. This policy reflects the specific duties set out by the Charity Commission for safeguarding and protecting people. This policy and associated procedures have been developed with reference to key relevant domestic legislation. As follows:The Children Act 1989 & 2004, The Protection of Children Act 1999, Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups act 2006, Care Act 2014, Mental Capacity Act 2005.

All Trustees have signed a declaration of Acceptance of Office to meet the requirements of their role laid down by the Charity Commission. This includes that they have no convictions or unspent convictions of any form of abuse.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing and rights so that everyone can be free from abuse, harm and neglect. Safeguarding is covered by legislation and related regulations.

Safeguarding risks for the purpose of this policy include; physical, emotional, or financial abuse; sexual harassment, negligent treatment, bullying harassment and any form of discrimination on the grounds specified in the Equality Act 2010. For definitions of abuse see Appendix 1.

Safeguarding includes specific protections for all those who are at particular risk of harm or abuse.

The Trustees have appointed a named Trustee as the Safeguarding Lead. The Safeguarding Lead will have joint responsible with the Chairman for implementing the Village Hall's Safeguarding procedure and reporting concerns that arise to the relevant protection agency as a matter of urgency.

The Safeguarding Lead will provide an annual report to the Trustees at the meeting following the AGM.

The current Safeguarding Lead is **Rachel Ellershaw. Contact 07853223175.**

DBS Checks

All elected officers and the nominated Safeguarding Lead are required to have DBS checks. This will be reviewed and updated annually by the Committee secretary. This includes the following Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Safeguarding Lead.

Safeguarding Training

All elected officers and the nominated Safeguarding Lead will undertake Safeguarding training every two years or before this if there are any significant legislative changes. This includes the following Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Safeguarding Lead.

Hiring Agreement

All Hall hirers will be made aware of the Village Hall's Safeguarding Policy.

All Hirers of the Hall are required to agree to the hiring agreement. This will require all Hirers who wish to use the Hall for activities which include children and adults at risk, other than those hired for private parties arranged for invited family and friends to either produce a copy of their Safeguarding Policy and evidence that they have carried out relevant checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) when requested to do so or confirm they have understood and will adhere to Barbon Village Hall's principles and procedure with regard to safeguarding.

Barbon Village Hall's Response to a Safeguarding Concern.

All Barbon Village Hall Trustees will work together to promote an open culture that enables issues about safeguarding to be addressed.

All concerns will be taken seriously. Appropriate and immediate action will be taken. This will include; the Chairman and Safeguarding Lead gathering relevant information from all concerned and completing the Village Hall incident report form. They will also brief all Trustees.

Any areas of concern will be reported immediately to the appropriate external statutory organisation by the Chairman who will take guidance from them.

Barbon Village Hall Trustees are aware of the work of the relevant local safeguarding Board/Partnership. As follows:

- Children: Westmorland & Furness Safeguarding Hub 0300 373 2724
- Vulnerable Adults: Westmorland & Furness Council 0300 373 3301
- Out of Hours: Emergency Duty Team 0300 373 2724

A copy of this policy is available on the Barbon Village Hall website https://barbonvillagehall.co.uk. It will also be referenced in the Hall's Hirer's Agreement.

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if required by changes to legislation.

Review October 2028

Appendix 1

Types and Definitions of Abuse

Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person(s) or group of people. Abuse may be single or repeated acts. It can be:

- Physical abuse: for example, hitting, slapping, burning, pushing, restraining.
- Psychological abuse: including emotional abuse, threats of harm, shouting, swearing, frightening, blaming, ignoring, intimidating or humiliating a person.
- Financial: including the illegal or unauthorised use of a person's property or money.
- Sexual: such as forcing a person to take part in any sexual activity without their informed consent.
- Discriminatory: including racist or sexist remarks or negative comments about a person's disability, age, illness or religion for example.
- Institutional: the collective failure of an organisation to provide an appropriate service to all people deemed to be at risk of abuse. This includes a failure to ensure the necessary safeguards are in place to protect adults and maintain good standards of care in accordance with individual needs, including training of Trustees, good record keeping and liaising with the relevant external bodies to report safeguarding concerns.
- Domestic Abuse: includes any incident or patterns of controlling coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse by someone that may be a partner or family member for example.
- Neglect or Acts of Omission: including ignoring medical or physical care needs. These can be deliberate or unintentional for example where a person is deprived of food, heat, comfort or essential medication or failing to provide access to appropriate health or social care services.