

BISHOP WILTON VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

Worsendale Road, Bishop Wilton, East Yorkshire, YO42 1ST
Reg Charity No. 1050047

Telephone number: 01759 368813

Safeguarding Policy (as from June 2019)

Policy Statement:

Bishop Wilton Village Hall & P.F.A. (The Village Hall) recognises that it has a statutory and moral duty to ensure that it safeguards and promotes the welfare of young people during their time spent at the Village Hall and facilities.

A child is any person under the age of 18.

A vulnerable adult is a person aged 18 years or over who is, or may be, in need of community care services by reason of mental or another disability, age or illness and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.

NO member of the trustees, staff, helpers, or other volunteers will have unsupervised access to children unless appropriately vetted.

Definitions:

Abuse

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child or vulnerable adult. Somebody may abuse a child or vulnerable adult by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. They may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting, by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger for example, via the internet. They may be abused by an adult or adults, another child/ren, or in some instances abuse may be to an adult recognised as vulnerable by a child or children.

- A violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person.
- May consist of a single act or repeated acts. It may be physical, verbal, or psychological, it may be an act of neglect or an omission to act, or it may occur when a vulnerable person is persuaded to enter into financial or sexual transactions to which he or she has not consented or cannot consent.
- Abuse can occur in any relationship and may result in significant harm to, or exploitation of the person subject to it.

The Village Hall recognises that children, young people, and vulnerable adults may suffer abuse in different ways:

- **Physical:** Any purposeful acts of violence causing injury.
- **Sexual:** The exploitation of authority or power to involve a child in sexual gratification.
- **Emotional:** Emotional ill-treatment or rejection affecting emotional or behavioural development.
- **Neglect:** The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs and protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger. This is likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development and may occur by failing to provide access to adequate food, health care, education, and/or supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers).

Our guiding principles are:

- The welfare of the child is paramount
- **NO** child or group of children must be treated any less favourably than others in being able to access services which meet their particular needs
- All children, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or beliefs
- The policy is reviewed, approved and endorsed by the board of trustees as needed, as a minimum this will be annually assessed
- This policy applies to all trustees, staff, and volunteers
children and parents are informed of the policy and procedures as appropriate
- **ALL** concerns, and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by trustees, staff and volunteers and responded to appropriately - this may require a referral to children's social care services, the independent Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for allegations against staff, trustees, and other volunteers, and in emergencies, the police.

The Village Hall will respond to suspicions or allegations of abuse by:

- Staff/volunteers will offer support and guidance to the young person and ensure their current safety.
- Staff/volunteers will record incidents and make the necessary agencies aware of any potential for concern.
- If unsure about the level of risk or appropriate support, staff/volunteers can seek advice or need to make a referral, please call:

EHASH – Wolds and Dale – 01482 395500.

Or if your concern is out of hours or at the weekend you can call the **EHASH out of hours on 01377 241273.**

Should the child be in immediate danger call the Police on 999

Or Police non-emergency: **Tel - 101**

Following any disclosure or concern for a **young person or vulnerable adult in immediate danger**, staff/volunteers will follow the procedure as attached to this policy.

Safeguarding Contact for Hall: SUE KING on 0773 278 0307

The Village Hall will maintain records and respect confidentiality:

- Staff or volunteers will inform the relevant external agencies of any issues for concern and pass them a written record of any incidents or disclosures, to be kept securely by them.

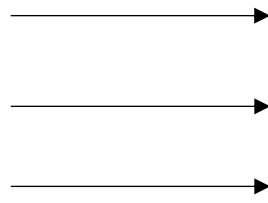
Members of the public who use our facilities will be made aware of our **Safeguarding Policy**. All hirers who wish to use the hall for activities which include children and vulnerable adults, other than for hire for private parties arranged for invited friends and family only, will be asked to produce a copy of their Child Protection Policy. A copy of this document will be displayed for the attention of all.

Link to Charity Commission Safeguarding Policy

www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-young-people

Safeguarding Procedure

Responding to a disclosure or allegation or if you witness abuse



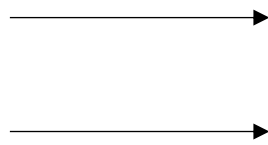
Do not make promises and let the person know that you will need to pass the information on

Limit what questions to “What, Who, When and Where”

Do not ask leading questions



Assist to ensure the victim is safe from immediate harm

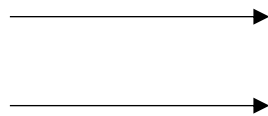


If necessary seek medical attention

Ensure that there is no contact with the alleged abuser



Preserve evidence



Do not allow any access to a place where the abuse may have occurred

Do not confront the alleged perpetrator



Record the Incident



Record what is said to you using the victims’ own words and what you see



Report and follow the instructions of the East Riding Safeguarding Helpline



If unsure about the level of risk or appropriate support, staff/volunteers can seek advice by calling The East Riding Safeguarding Helpline: 01482 395500