



# St. Elizabeth's Hall, Hambrook Village Hall Management Committee ('the Committee')

## Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy

### Who is a vulnerable person?

A vulnerable person could include:

- children under 18 years of age
- young people
- adults with learning difficulties or physical disability
- frail elderly people
- carers

The importance of child protection is well known but we all owe a duty of care to all those using the premises, equipment, and facilities at St. Elizabeth's Hall. While the Committee does not ordinarily undertake activities for vulnerable persons, it recognises its responsibilities for helping to establish an environment in which vulnerable persons can feel safe.

### Principles

All members of the Committee have a duty to facilitate and uphold proper safeguarding measures that may need to be taken by Hall users organising activities that may involve vulnerable persons, and while the primary responsibility lies with the organisers and operators of activities and events, the Committee should be ready to address relevant issues that may arise from time to time and of which the Committee become aware.

They should respond to any concerns they may have regarding the physical, sexual, emotional or psychological safety of a vulnerable person or concerns relating to a discriminatory or financial violation or exploitation of a vulnerable person. This policy is in place to protect all vulnerable persons regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion, or faith.

### Policy

1. No member of the Committee shall knowingly allow the Hall to be used for activities that are expressed to include vulnerable persons without there being identifiable persons who are expected to assume the responsibility for safeguarding the vulnerable persons in the course of those activities.
2. Any suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.
3. The Committee recognises the basic general principle that it is the responsibility of everyone for all children and vulnerable adults, without exception, to have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect. Bullying, shouting, physical violence, sexism, and racism towards vulnerable persons should not be permitted or tolerated.
4. All members of the Committee will be made aware of this policy
5. The Committee shall aim to provide a safe environment for all users, but the supervision and management of activities lies with the organisers of particular activities or events.
6. The Committee shall appoint a member of the Committee from time to time to be the 'Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult Representative' and to whom any related incident or complaint should be directed so that that person can in turn report concerns to an appropriate public service authority as soon as can reasonably be affected.