

Wisbech St Mary Parish Council

Chairman – Councillor David Wheeler

This Health & Safety Policy was adopted by the council

At its meeting held on: Monday 13th February 2023

Minute Reference: 13 (d)

Health and Safety Policy Statement

The Parish Council recognises its responsibilities as an employer to ensure, as is reasonably practicable, a healthy and safety environment for its employees and any others who may be affected by its activities as a local authority.

The Council will make every effort to meet its responsibilities under the **Health and Safety at Work Act 1974** and if appropriate, the Council will seek expert technical advice.

The Council will take all reasonable and practicable measures to meet this responsibility, paying particular attention to the provision and maintenance of: -

- a) Systems of work that are safe.
- b) Equipment is safe, properly maintained and correctly used.
- c) Safe arrangements for the use, handling, storage and transport of articles and substances.
- d) Sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable employees to identify and avoid hazards, and to be able to contribute positively to their own safety and health at work, and that of others.

Arrangements and Responsibilities

The Clerk will:

1. Keep informed of relevant Health and Safety Policy legislation and inform the Council accordingly.
2. Make effective arrangements to implement the Health and Safety at Work Policy.
3. Ensure that matters of Health and Safety are regularly discussed at meetings of the Parish Council.
4. Ensure that regular risk assessments are carried out of working practices and assets and maintain record of risk assessments.
5. Make effective arrangements to ensure that contractors or voluntary helpers working for the

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council comply with all reasonable Health and Safety at Work requirements.

6. Contractors are expected to have their own Health & Safety Policy and to carry out a risk assessment prior to the commencement of work.
7. Ensure that work activities by the Council do not unreasonably jeopardise the health and safety of members of the public.
8. Maintain a central record of notified accidents.
9. When an accident or hazardous incident occurs take immediate action to prevent a recurrence or further accident and to complete the necessary accident reporting procedures.

All employees, contractors and voluntary helpers will:

1. Cooperate fully with the aims and requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Policy and comply with Codes of Practice or work instructions for Health and Safety.
2. Take reasonable care of their own Health and Safety, use appropriate personal protective clothing and, where appropriate, ensure the appropriate First Aid materials are available.
3. Take reasonable care for the Health and Safety of other people who may be affected by their activities.
4. Not intentionally interfere with or remove safety guards, safety devices or other equipment provided for Health and Safety.
5. Not misuse any plant, equipment, tools or materials so as to cause risks to Health and Safety.
6. Not enter restricted areas or use equipment for which suitable and adequate training has not been received.
7. Report any accidents or hazardous incidents to the Clerk.

Overall and final responsibility for health and safety in the Council is that of the Parish Council as a corporate body.

Signed: _____

Cllr David Wheeler - Chairman