

BOURTON’S COMMUNITY HALL - CHILD PROTECTION POLICY GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

The welfare of the child is paramount: All children, without exception, have the right to protection from abuse.

1. **Policy** - No member of the trustees, staff or other volunteers will have unsupervised access to children unless appropriately vetted.

Procedure: All members of the trustees, staff or other volunteers will be made aware of this policy and the relevant vetting procedures. Should checks become necessary, they will be undertaken in compliance with the Protection of Children Act 1999, the Children Act 1989 and Part V of the Police Act 1997 and any amendment thereof.

2. **Policy** - All suspicions or allegations of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.

Procedure: The Parish Council representative on the Board of Trustees will be responsible for Child Protection Matters. This person will have responsibility for reporting concerns that arise, as a matter of urgency, to the local authority Child Protection lead agency.

3. **Policy** - All trustees, staff and other volunteers will be required to become aware of Child Protection issues.

Procedure: Copies of the relevant Acts and Department of Health guidelines will, if necessary, be held by the trustees as reference material for staff and volunteers. Relevant Child Protection training for trustees will be encouraged.

4. **Policy** - The policies and procedures will be regularly reviewed.

Procedures: An annual review will take place following the AGM to allow for any required up-date of policies and or procedures. New trustees, staff and volunteers will be provided with an understanding of their responsibilities in matters of child protection.

5. **Policy** - Members of the local community who use the village hall facilities should be aware of the Child Protection policies as adopted by the trustees.

Procedure: All hirers who wish to use the hall for activities which include children and venerable 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.

This Policy has been agreed by the Bourton’s Community Hall Trustees and is applicable to all users of the hall until such time that it is reaffirmed or updated at the Trustees/Management Committee AGM or amended in line with current legislation.

Signed

Dated