

**Melbourn Parish Council
Child & Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy**

1. Purpose

To ensure that everybody involved with MPC has a clear understanding of their responsibilities and has a duty of care to safeguard all young people and vulnerable adults involved in MPC sponsored initiatives and in activities taking place on MPC managed premises. They will ensure the safety and protection of young people through adherence to this Child Protection Policy

2. Background and Children's Rights

The United Nations on the rights of the child states: 'Children have the right to be protected from all forms of violence. They must be safe from harm. They must be given proper care.'(Article 19) 'Any child who is badly treated must be given help to recover.' (Article 39) The role of this policy is to ensure that we as a Council provide a safe and secure environment for our users and that our users are aware of procedures when dealing with any incident.

We, as Parish Councillors, will work in partnership with other agencies, e.g. Cambs County Council, Police, Youth Service and other local community bodies to ensure that young people have a safe and secure environment.

3. Aims

Melbourn Parish Council aims to:

- Create, where possible, a safe and secure environment for young people and vulnerable adults on projects sponsored by MPC.
- Create, where possible, a safe and secure environment for young people and vulnerable adults when using our facilities.
- Ensure that adults, staff and volunteers are aware of their responsibilities to young people and vulnerable adults engaged in their projects or using their facilities.
- Allow all staff/volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues.
- Maintain an inter-agency approach when dealing with incidents occurring at our facilities or on our projects.
- Be aware of confidentiality when dealing with incidents.
- Ensuring parental consent in writing when required to act in loco parentis.

4. Steps

- Monitoring of child and vulnerable adult safety by Councillors, staff and volunteers at all times.
- Reporting of incidents to designated person.
- Reporting of incidents to professional agencies.
- Ensure new trustees, staff and volunteers are familiar with this policy.

- Ensure that adults hiring MPC facilities to work with the young people and vulnerable adults have appropriate child and vulnerable adult protection procedures in place.
- Keeping a written record of reported injuries occurring on MPC premises along with details of any treatment given.
- Being aware and vigilant of any inappropriate filming or photography taking place on MPC premises and reporting to designated person.
- Ensure that all those involved with MPC are aware of the organisation's Complaints Procedure, Managing Allegations Procedure and Equality Diversity Policy.

Child Protection Involves:

- Accepting that the welfare of the child or vulnerable adult is paramount.
- Promoting the protection of children and vulnerable adults from harm.
- Promoting the development of the child or vulnerable adult to their full potential.

____BOB TULLOCH_____

25 JANUARY 2016

Chairman

Date