

Benwick Parish Council



Safeguarding Policy

Adopted at Council Meeting 02/06/2025 (minute ref: 046/25-26 g)

1. Policy Statement

Benwick Parish Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk. We recognise our responsibility to take all concerns seriously and act appropriately.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- Parish Councillors
- Parish Clerk
- Volunteers
- Contractors and any representatives of the Council

3. Definitions

Child: Anyone under the age of 18.

Adult at Risk: Anyone aged 18+ who has care/support needs and is unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation.

4. Responsibilities

Parish Clerk: Designated Safeguarding Lead. First point of contact for concerns.

All Councillors and Volunteers: Must report safeguarding concerns without delay.

Council: Ensures safeguarding is embedded in relevant decisions and activities.

5. Types of Abuse

Including but not limited to:

- Physical
- Emotional
- Sexual
- Neglect
- Financial or material
- Psychological
- Discriminatory or institutional

6. What to Do if You Have a Concern

If someone is in immediate danger call the Emergency services – 999

For non-urgent concerns, report to Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Abbey Barnes – Parish Clerk

Tel: 07471 344070

Email: clerk@benwickparishcouncil.gov.uk

7. Local Safeguarding Contacts

Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team – Tel: 01733 234724 (for both adults and children)

During normal working hours please use the following:

Cambridgeshire Children’s Safeguarding

Cambridgeshire County Council – Children’s Services

Tel: 0345 045 5203 (Monday–Friday, 8am–6pm)

Email: customer.services@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk>

Cambridgeshire Adult’s Safeguarding

Cambridgeshire County Council – Adult Services

Tel: 0345 045 5202

Email: referral.centre-adults@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

8. Contractors & Event Organisers

If the Council engages contractors or hosts public events:

- Safeguarding responsibilities will be clearly outlined.
- Contractors working with vulnerable groups may be required to confirm safeguarding procedures or show DBS clearance.

9. Confidentiality and Data Protection

Any safeguarding concern will be recorded and shared only with appropriate services. We follow GDPR and confidentiality best practices.

10. Training & Awareness

All members of the Council will be briefed on this policy and any safeguarding responsibilities relevant to their role. Refresher information may be provided periodically.

11. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if legislation or guidance changes.