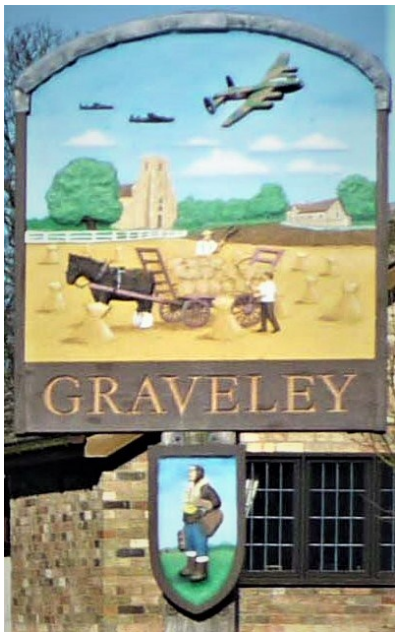


Children and Adults at Risk Safeguarding Policy

Document Configuration Management & Control

Version	Description	Originated	Approved	Minute Ref
Version 1	Annual Review	18/05/2023	07/05/2024	24/25-39.2
Version 2	Annual Review	6/01/2026	14/01/2026	25/26-118

Graveley Parish Council Child and Adults at Risk Safeguarding Policy

The aim of this policy is to protect the safety of adults accessing ***Graveley Parish Council***

General principles:

- Anyone under the age of 18 years is considered to be a child
- The Care Act (2014) defines safeguarding as "protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect." Adult safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:
  - has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and
  - is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse and neglect and
  - as a result of their care and support needs, is unable to protect themselves from the risk or experience of abuse and neglect.
- The welfare of children and adults at risk is paramount
- All children and adults at risk without exception, have the right to protection from abuse and for their rights, feelings and views to be respected
- Allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately

In line with these principles the Parish Council will aim to:

- Create a healthy and safe environment for all activities, where children and adults at risk feel safe and secure
- Promote the general welfare, health and full development of children and adults at risk during activities on Council premises
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the wellbeing of children and adults at risk and protect them from abuse
- Respect the rights, wishes and feelings of children and adults at risk and ensure that they are listened to
- Ensure that any allegations made are not allowed to go unchallenged, and that any allegations and suspicions are investigated, recorded and acted upon promptly

- Ensure that councillors, staff and volunteers are well informed, maintain high standards and observe best practice
- Ensure that all new councillors/employees/volunteers who work with or come into contact with children and adults at risk are subject to checks under the current Disclosure and Barring Service
- Ensure that all new councillors/employees/volunteers will be provided with training where appropriate. A signed copy of this policy confirms that they understand it and will abide by it
- The Parish Council will ensure that procedures are put in place to enable its aims are met and to initiate appropriate action should any allegation of improper conduct be made
- All hirers using council facilities that provide activities or services for children and adults at risk other than for private hire for family and friends will be asked to produce a child protection policy or adopt the Parish Council's policy

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To achieve this, the Council will appoint a named person responsible for this policy. That person is *Sarah Phillips – Clerk to Graveley Parish Council*

This policy will be reviewed annually or in line with any changes in legislation as advised by the Clerk to the council.