**TEBAY PARISH COUNCIL**

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN POLICY**

**-----------------------------------------------**

The purpose of this policy is:

\* To protect children and young people who receive services from Tebay Parish Council. This includes the children of adults who receive our services.

\* To provide parents, staff and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to child protection.

This policy applies to anyone working on behalf of the parish council including paid or unpaid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff and students.

**Legal Framework**

The policy has been drawn up on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect children in England. A summary of the key legislation can be obtained from the website of the National Society for the Protection of Children (nspcc.org.uk/learning).

**We believe that**

\* children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind

\* we have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to operate in a way that protects them.

**We recognise that**

\* the welfare of the child is paramount

\* all children, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse

\* some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues

\* working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting young people’s welfare.

**We seek to keep children and young people safe by**

\* valuing, listening to and respecting them

\* adopting child protection and safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures and codes of conduct

\* where staff or volunteers have to work with children and young people we will provide training and supervision for them

\* recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made

\* recording and storing information professionally and securely

\* sharing information about safeguarding with children, staff and volunteers, as appropriate

\* ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place

\*ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for children and young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.

**Contact details**

Chair of the Parish Council – Mr. A. Todd, Honeypot House, Gaisgill

Clerk to the Parish Council – Mrs. M. Longworth, Yew Tree Farm, Greenholme (clerk@tebaypc.org.uk). Phone 015396 24900

October 2018

Revision date – October 2019