

**Ashover Parish Council**  
**General Statement, Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974**

It is the policy of the Parish Council that, so far as is reasonably practicable, every possible step will be taken to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all employees at work, contractors and other people who may be affected by its activities. This duty extends to members of the public when interfacing with our work occurs.

The Parish Council recognises its responsibilities for all its employees and its duty to do everything reasonably practicable to provide and maintain plant and equipment, systems of work, a workplace and working environment. The Parish Council will meet all legislative requirements and ensure that the arrangements in place are updated to reflect changes to legislation.

It is therefore the Parish Council's policy to assess all significant risk to employees and others which may arise from any of the Parish Council's undertakings to develop and maintain preventive and/or protective measures which shall avoid or reduce risks to the lowest extent reasonably practicable.

Management accepts the responsibility for ensuring that all information, instruction, training and supervision necessary to ensure health, safety at work for all employees will be provided. It is also the Parish Council's policy to encourage and insist upon the co-ordination of all employees by discussion and consultation with them and their representatives with a view to promoting and developing measures to ensure health and safety at work. All employees will be encouraged to be active in carrying out the policy.

Every employee has a clear and undeniable duty to take reasonable care of the health and safety of himself and his fellow workers or other persons who may be affected by his actions at work.

Successful implementation of this policy requires the whole hearted commitment of everyone in the Parish Council and acceptance by individual employees of their responsibility to:-

- a) store and use any machine, equipment, dangerous substances, transport equipment, means of production or safety device provided by the Parish Council in accordance with any information, instruction and/or training provided, and;
- b) inform the undersigned of any work situation which they reasonably consider represents a serious and immediate danger to health and safety, and of any matter which they reasonably consider represents a shortcoming in the Parish Council's protection arrangements for health and safety.

It is the duty of every employee, councillor and volunteer to co-operate with any other employee and the Parish Council to enable all statutory duties and requirements to be fulfilled in full.

All persons are reminded that it is a criminal offence to misuse or recklessly interfere with anything which is provided in the interests of health, safety or welfare.

The Parish Council stresses its commitment to health and safety to the extent that where willful disregard for safe working practices by any employee seriously put at risk the health or safety of themselves or any other person this shall be considered as gross misconduct and may lead to the severest disciplinary action.

The allocation of duties for safety matters and particular arrangements which the Parish Council will make to implement the policy will be reviewed annually. The review will also look at whether current targets and objectives are being met as well as the development of future initiatives to ensure continual improvement.

Reviewed: May 2017  
Reviewed: May 2018  
Reviewed: May 2021  
Reviewed: May 2024  
Next Review: May 2027