**North Hall, Loxwood – Safeguarding Policy**

**Statement of Intent**

* North Hall Trustees have a duty to safeguard vulnerable users of the hall and its premises.
* They should respond to any concerns they may have regarding the physical, sexual, emotional or psychological safety of a vulnerable person or concerns relating to discriminatory or financial violation or exploitation of a vulnerable person.

**Principles**

* All children and vulnerable adults, regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion or faith, have the right to protection from abuse, whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion or neglect.
* The trustees will maintain an environment conducive to safe practice but the responsibility for ensuring the safety of children or vulnerable adults while at the hall must rest with the individual or organisation hiring the hall.

**Policy Statement**

* The trustees will endeavour to keep the premises safe for use by children and vulnerable adults and they recognise that a higher standard of safety is required where use is made by small children, those who cannot read safety notices and physically disabled adults
* Any organisations or individuals hiring the hall for the purposes of holding activities involving children or vulnerable adults are confirming by accepting the Standard Conditions of Hire that they have appropriate safeguarding policy in place.
* Any suspicion or allegation of abuse against a child will be taken seriously and dealt with speedily and appropriately.
* The trustees will ensure that the Supplementary Terms and Conditions of Hire, regarding the sale of alcohol, are brought to the attention of hirers when booking.
* All trustees need to be aware of this policy, child protection, and vulnerable adult issues. A copy of this policy will be available on the North Hall website and provided to all who request it.
* There will be nominated and named vulnerable user representatives to whom any suspicions or concerns should be reported.

**Reporting procedure**

* The nominated Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult representative may choose to have a confidential discussion with others in order to clear up any misunderstandings or to corroborate and support any suspicions before reporting a concern to the lead agency.
* Subsequently the representative will have responsibility for reporting concerns to the local authority CPVA lead agency if it is deemed appropriate.
* The nominated person should ensure that there is an environment in which trustees and hirers have the opportunity to raise any child protection or vulnerable adult protection concerns.

Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult representative is

Liz Lancaster [lizlancase061@gmail.com](mailto:lizlancase061@gmail.com) 07428 911081

**Contact details**

WSCC is the main contact point for reporting concerns:

Horsham Multi Agency Safeguarding - 01403 229900

with children’s services  [WSChildrenServices@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:WSChildrenServices@westsussex.gov.uk)

and vulnerable adult services 01243 642121

NSPCC helpline 0800 800 5000 [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

If it is urgent and harm possible 999