**WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY**

**GENERAL STATEMENT**

1. The Council recognises and accepts its responsibilities as an employer for providing a safe and healthy working environment for its employees, volunteers and members of the public.

2. The Council will meet its responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, and will provide, as far as is reasonably practicable, the resources necessary to fulfil this commitment.

3. The Council will seek expert technical advice on health and safety to assist the Clerk in fulfilling its responsibilities for ensuring safe working conditions.

**AIMS OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK POLICY**

To provide as far as reasonably practicable:

1. A safe place of work and safe working environment

2. Suitable, safe and well-maintained plant, equipment, tools and materials for use by volunteers

3. Suitable guards and protective equipment for the safety and welfare of volunteers

4. Arrangements for safe use, handling, transport and storage of articles and substances

5. Arrangements for considering, reporting and reviewing matters of health and safety at work, including regular risk assessments of working activities

6. Systems of work which are safe and without risks to health

7. Specialist technical advice and assistance on matters of health and safety when necessary

8. Sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision for employees to carry out their work safely

9. Consultation and cooperation between the Council, employees and volunteers

10. Care and attention to the health, safety and welfare of employees

11. Care and attention to the health, safety and welfare of volunteers and members of the public who may be affected by the council's activities

**ARRANGEMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CARRYING OUT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY AT WORK**

The Parish Clerk will:

1. Keep him/herself informed of relevant health and safety policy

2. Advise the Council on the resources and arrangements necessary to fulfil the Council's responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Policy

3. Ensure that any matters of health and safety are discussed at the full Council meetings

4. Ensure that the Health and Safety at Work Policy is implemented

5. Ensure that regular risk assessments are carried out of working practices, with subsequent consideration and review of any necessary corrective/protective measures

6. Make effective arrangements to ensure that volunteers/contractors working for or the Council comply with all reasonable health and safety at work requirements

7. Ensure that work activities by the Council do not cause any risk to the health and safety of members of the public

This policy will be reviewed annually.