Safeguarding Policy
The Joseph Harris Memorial Hall
(Greysouthen Village Hall)

www.greysouthen.online
Registered Charity 520318
The went, Greysouthen, Cumbria CA13 0UQ

This statement of policy and procedures applies to users of, and activities/events in Greysouthen Village Hall and any ancillary activities which are the responsibility of the Village Hall Trustees. (The trustees recognise the importance of ensuring the safeguarding and welfare of all Hall users)

This policy is in place to protect children, young people (school age and above) and vulnerable adults regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religion, or faith.

The welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount and is the responsibility of everyone. All have the right to protection from abuse whether physical, verbal, sexual, bullying, exclusion, or neglect.

All people associated with Greysouthen Village Hall and its use have a responsibility for the safeguarding of children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

Greysouthen Village Hall Trustees will endeavour to keep the premises safe for use.

Greysouthen Village Hall Trustees insist that any adult working with children, young people, or vulnerable adults (elderly, mentally and/or physically disabled), and having unsupervised access, must be in possession of appropriate clearance such as DBS.

It is the **hirer's** responsibility to ensure that such clearance is in place **before** the hiring takes place. The management trustees may ask to see evidence of this. Use of Greysouthen Village Hall may be refused where adequate protection for vulnerable groups cannot be demonstrated.

It is the **hirer's** responsibility to ensure that anyone who has not had this check is **never** left alone with a child or vulnerable adult.

Hirers must satisfy themselves that the premises and facilities are **suitable** for their needs.

The Trustees will ensure that hirers are made aware of their obligations under the Premises Licensing Act 2003 PLNA0155 to ensure that alcohol is not sold to those under the age of 18 and that no children may be admitted to films when they are below the age classification for the film on show.

In the event of a child or vulnerable adult not being collected after an event, the **responsibility** of dealing with the situation rests solely with the **hirer**, who if necessary, must seek advice or involvement from the authorities or Police.

Privacy and confidentiality will be respected where possible but if doing so leaves any body at risk of harm their safety will always come first.
Any allegations of any incident that take place on the hall site that are made to the Trustees will be reported to the relevant authorities. The committee will not carry out any investigation but will refer the matter to the police and or social services safeguarding teams. If a disclosure is made a note of the time and date will be made. This will follow all GDPR guidance in that if information needs to be collected it will be for explicit and legitimate purposes only and only shared if requested by law or a public authority. Such information will be kept for no longer than is necessary to safeguard the rights of the individual.

Acceptance of the Village Halls Safeguarding Policy is part of the agreed contract taken out on hiring the hall.

A copy of this policy is available on the village hall website and will be displayed for the attention of all on the Hall notice board.

The policy will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Policy Reviewed and updated August 2020

Signed……. Chairperson The Joseph Harris Memorial Hall.