



## Adults at Risk<sup>1</sup> Policy

The Management Committee<sup>2</sup> of Upper Rissington Village Hall<sup>3</sup> recognises its duty of care under the Care Act 2014, the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014, the Sexual Offences Act 2003, Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 and the principles of the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) Safeguarding Policy as it applies to the activities carried out by the Trust and the Committee.

The Objective of the Trust, and hence the Committee, is to provide and maintain the Village Hall for the use of the inhabitants of Upper Rissington. In that role they have a responsibility to advise Hirers of URVH, through the Terms of Hire, that Rules and Regulations apply to them during the time of Hire but that compliance is their sole responsibility.

Notwithstanding the above, the Committee recognises that abuse can take many forms, whether it be physical, psychological, sexual, discriminatory, domestic or neglect or an act of omission and is committed to protect vulnerable adults from harm. The Committee accepts and recognises its responsibilities to develop awareness of the issues which cause vulnerable adults harm.

An adult at risk is a person over 18 years of age who:

- Is, or may be in need of, Community Care Services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness
- AND is unable to take care of him or herself
- OR is unable to protect him or herself from significant harm or exploitation

An adult at risk may fall into any one of the following groups:

- Older and frail people
- A mental health need
- A learning difficulty
- A physical impairment
- A sensory impairment
- Are substance or alcohol dependent
- Are family carers providing assistance to another vulnerable adult

The Committee believes that:

1. The welfare of adults at risk is paramount
2. All adults at risk whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse
3. All suspicions and allegations of abuse should be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
4. All Committee Members and Volunteers should be clear on how to respond appropriately

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<sup>1</sup> The term "Adults at Risk" is synonymous with the term "Vulnerable Adults"

<sup>2</sup> Hereinafter referred to as "the Committee"

<sup>3</sup> Hereinafter referred to as "URVH"

The Committee will ensure, so far as affects their responsibilities and is practicable, that:

1. Abuse of adults at risk will be identified as far as reasonably practicable
2. It will respond effectively to any circumstances identified
3. It will respect the confidentiality of adults at risk wherever possible
4. It will raise awareness of abuse to adults at risk
5. Committee Members and Volunteers will provide a positive role model towards adults at risk
6. It will keep informed of changes in legislation and policies concerning adults at risk

Hirers of URVH shall be aware of their responsibilities and duties under the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) Safeguarding Policy as it applies to them during their time of Hire of URVH. The Hirer is solely responsible for compliance with the applicable legislation.