

SAFEGUARDING

Statement of intent

- 1. The Barningham Net Zero Community Interest Company is committed to proactively safeguard our directors, volunteers, contractors and any people directly affected by our activities, such as members of the community and the public with whom we interact.

Safeguarding means protecting a person’s right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.

Abuse is behaviour towards a person that deliberately or unintentionally causes harm. Abuse can be physical, sexual, financial, discriminatory, psychological, organisational, domestic, modern slavery, neglect and self-neglect.

- 2. We believe that everyone has the right to be treated with respect and protected from all forms of harm, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Responsibility

- 3. Overall and final responsibility for the safeguarding of people for all activities, meetings and events organised by the Barningham Net Zero Community Interest Company lies with the directors.
- 4. Responsibility may be delegated to a named volunteer or contractor for a particular activity, meeting or event. The named individual will be responsible for ensuring that this policy is upheld.
- 5. For all activities, meetings, and events the responsible person will be named in advance and their name will be noted on all relevant risk assessments.

General arrangements

- 6. Our approach to safeguarding is based on the six principles of: empowerment, prevention, proportionality, protection, partnership, accountability.
- 7. Our directors, volunteers and contractors are empowered to identify safeguarding concerns in relation to any activity and to notify one or more director so that appropriate action can be taken.
- 8. A health and safety risk assessment, which includes consideration of safeguarding issues, will be carried out before every activity, meeting and event that we undertake or organise. Appropriate and proportionate measures will be adopted to prevent any form of abuse arising.
- 9. Risk assessments will take into account reasonable arrangements for avoiding lone working. No director, volunteer or contractor will run an event or activity on their own, and at least two people should stay at an event until it is finished and the last attendees have left.
- 10. All directors, volunteers, contractors and attendees will be made aware of the safeguarding precautions they need to take as noted in the relevant risk assessment.
- 11. If in the course of any activity, a director, volunteer or contractor comes in contact with a person who requires urgent medical assistance, they will immediately contact the emergency services or take steps to obtain professional assistance.
- 12. If in the course of any activity, a director, volunteer or contractor comes in contact with a person who appears to be suffering illegal abuse, they will contact another director at the earliest opportunity and determine which authority or service should be contacted to obtain assistance. The suspected abuse will be reported to the authority or service at the earliest opportunity.

Review

- 13. This policy will be reviewed every two years.

Date.....

Signature (Judith Lewis - Chair).....

Signature (Martha McBarron - Secretary).....