

Boxmoor and District Probus Club



SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Introduction

We all have a responsibility to safeguard adults who are experiencing, or at risk of abuse and neglect, during all Club activities. This also includes members' partners, guests and any volunteers providing support during club activities.

These activities typically include:

- Monthly club meetings in Potten End Village Hall.
- Club outings and Theatre trips.
- Club Holidays.
- Annual BBQ and quiz nights, etc.
- Volunteers providing refreshments at club meetings.

Purpose

This policy and procedure outlines how the Boxmoor and District Probus Club, undertakes its safeguarding responsibilities, and what individual club members should do if they have any concerns, regarding other members or even themselves being abused.

The safeguarding of adults is underpinned by:

- The Care Act 2014
- Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005

The types of abuse that may occur during club activities identified in the Care Act 2014 are:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological / Emotional / Mental.
- Financial and material
- Neglect and acts of omission.
- Discrimination

Note: Whilst domestic abuse has not been included in the above list, as it is within the policy remit, support will be offered to any member who may be experiencing it.

Supporting Processes

The club has Risk Assessments in place for a number of social activities. These complement this safeguarding policy by identifying any potential risk of abuse that may occur, enabling control measures to be put in place, to minimise any risk.

Club Committee Responsibilities / Undertakings

The Club has a Zero-Tolerance Approach to any form of abuse and are committed to safeguarding its members when involved in club activities, by:

- Ensuring no one has to put up with feeling unsafe, being abused or worried about someone else.
- Taking appropriate action against any member found to be knowingly abusing any other member or volunteer.
- Ensuring Risk Assessments are in place, which incorporates Duty of Care responsibilities for all appropriate Club activities.
- Providing support and advice to anyone who feels unsafe or is being abused.
- Ensuring that disabled members are not excluded from club activities (or otherwise discriminated against) by making all reasonable endeavours to accommodate them.

Members Participation / Reporting Abuse Concerns

The Club acknowledges that the participation of members is key to ensuring that the Safeguarding Policy is effective.

If a member is being abused or is worried about someone else, they can seek advice from the Care Secretary, who will treat any information provided in confidence.

The Care Secretary will listen to the information you provide and assess what action is required, to put a stop to it. He may wish to consult with the Committee regarding the appropriate action to be taken, before making a decision, but will not divulge your name without your consent, to protect your confidence.

(NOTE: Regular volunteers will also be able to seek advice from the Care Secretary, if they have any concerns)

Supporting Safeguarding Information

The Care Act 2014 is available in full on www.legislation.uk.gov. However as the act is a complex piece of legislation and difficult to navigate, Age UK have produced a more friendly document which can be found on their website www.ageuk.org.uk by entering “protection from abuse” into the search bar.

Risk Level

In view of the nature of Club members, the risk of abuse is considered to be very low risk in some of the areas listed, and not relevant to our members.

10th April 2021