**Hundleby Parish Council**

**Dog Policy**

Adopted 7.03.23

review 03.24

**Introduction**

Hundleby Parish Council owns the Parish Rooms. These are available for hire by community groups or individuals for events and activities. The basis of the hire is set out in the Hirer Policy and Hirer Agreement. The Hirer abides by our policies which are all on our website.

**Purpose**

We are a small rural parish and many people have dogs. The purpose of the Dog policy is to

* uphold the law relating to assistance dogs
* serve the needs of local people and
* safeguard people against the risks associated with dogs
* protect parish councillors from personal liability by
* minimising the potential for accusations of negligence

We recognise that there are people who

* use an Assistance Dog to do the same things as other people
* enjoy the comfort and support of having their dog with them
* are afraid of, or are allergic to dogs and
* worry that dogs may cause slips, trips, harm or injury,

**Assistance Dogs**

Under The Equality Act 2010 people using Assistance Dogs are protected from discrimination.  Assistance Dog owners **are entitled in law to attend with their dog**.

Assistance Dogs are highly trained and treated as ‘auxiliary aids’ not pets. They will not wander freely around the premises. They will sit quietly on the floor next to their owner and are unlikely to mess in public. They may, though are not required to, use a dog harness or carry the dog’s ID book.

**Responsibilities**

Hundleby Parish Council is committed to ensuring people are aware of their responsibilities.  If your dog causes any damage or harm you may be liable and sued for damages.   We urge you to check your insurance cover.

**Hirers are responsible to**

1. decide if dogs are welcome at their event/s
2. oversee the safety of people at their event/s
3. ensure dogs are under their owners close control at all times
4. ask owners to remove any dog bothering others
5. note the disclaimer notices and their insurance cover
6. ensure any dog mess or breakages are cleared up by the owner
7. write up any dog related incidents in the Accident Book

**Dog owners are responsible to**

1. accept Hirer’s decision on dogs attending
2. keep other people safe from your dog in the Parish Rooms
3. keep your dog under close control at all times
4. take your dog away if hirer asks
5. note the disclaimer notices and **your** insurance cover
6. clear up after any dog mess or breakages
7. witness write up of any dog related incident in the Accident Book

**Other related documents**

* Hirer Policy, Hirer Agreement, Parish Rooms Risk Assessment
* Dog Owners Liability notices,  Accident Book In the Parish Rooms