

## Portsonachan Village Hall Safeguarding Policy

Portsonachan Village Hall is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all vulnerable groups involved in using the Hall. It recognises the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children and vulnerable adults from harm, abuse and exploitation.

It would be normal practice for children and vulnerable adults to be accompanied by a responsible person at all times when visiting or using the Hall.

Committee Members and users will work together to embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of children and vulnerable adults. This document outlines our commitment to protecting all vulnerable persons. These guidelines are based on the following principles:

- The welfare of children and vulnerable adults as laid out in the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 is the primary concern.
- All children and vulnerable adults, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
- Children and vulnerable adults have the right to express views on all matters which affect them, should they wish to do so.
- The Organisation shall work in partnership together with children and vulnerable adults, parents and carers to promote the welfare, health and development of all..

### **Portsonachan Village Hall will:**

- Promote the health and welfare of children and vulnerable adults by providing opportunities for them to take part in all Hall related activities.
- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of all these covered by this policy.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to safeguard the well being of children and vulnerable adults and protect them from abuse.
- Support, users and volunteers to adopt best safeguarding practice and reduce risk to themselves.
- Require users and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and these procedures.
- Respond to any allegations of misconduct or abuse in line with this Safeguarding Policy and these procedures.
- The committee will Observe guidelines issued by Volunteer Scotland and appoint a Safeguarding Co-ordinator to whom all concerns should be reported for appropriate action to be taken. Contact details will be displayed on the Noticeboard in the Hall.

Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and these procedures.

**This Policy and these Procedures will be regularly reviewed:**

In accordance with current legislation and guidance on the protection of children and vulnerable adults

Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of children within Portsonachan Village Hall.

In all other circumstances, at least every three years.

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
Loretta Sweeney - Chair