

## **Barnwell Parish Council**

### **Risk Management Policy Statement**

#### **Definition of Risk Management**

Risk is the threat that an event or action will adversely affect an organisation's ability to achieve its objectives and to successfully execute its strategies. Risk management is the process by which risks are identified, evaluated, and controlled. It is a key element of the framework of governance together with community focus, structures and processes, standards of conduct and service delivery arrangements.

#### **Risk Policy Statement**

Barnwell Parish Council recognises that it has a responsibility to manage risks effectively in order to protect its members, assets, liabilities and the community against potential losses, to minimise uncertainty in achieving its goals and objectives and to maximise its opportunities. The council is aware that some risks can never be eliminated fully and has in place a strategy that provides a structured, systematic and focussed approach to managing risk.

#### **Approach to Risk Management**

The council's approach to risk management requires that all risks should be systematically identified and managed in the most cost effective manner within overall resources available. Each risk identified by the council is recorded in the council's risk assessment. The impact is assessed, appropriate control measures are put in place and the frequency with which the risk should be reviewed is determined.

#### **Responsibility for Risk Management**

The council recognises that it is the responsibility of all councillors and the clerk as an employee to have regard for risk in carrying out their duties. If uncontrolled, risk can result in a drain on resources that could be better directed to front line service provision and to the meeting of the council's objectives and community needs. This policy has the full support of the council which recognises that any reduction in the risk of injury, illness, loss or damage benefits the whole community. The cooperation and commitment of all members and clerk as an employee is required to ensure that council resources are not wasted as a result of uncontrolled risk. The council is responsible for ensuring that this procedure is adhered to.

The Policy and Risk Assessment register is reviewed annually in May.