

Smoke Free Policy

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to protect all employees, service users, customers and visitors to exposure to second hand smoke and to include the provisions of the Health Act 2006 which came into force on 1 July 2007.
- 1.2 Exposure to second hand smoke increases the risk of lung cancer, heart disease, and other serious health risks. Ventilation or separating smokers and non-smokers within the same air space does not completely stop potentially dangerous exposure.

2.0 Policy

- 2.1 It is the policy of Barlow Parish Council to ensure that the Village Hall is smoke free and its employees and users have a right to a smoke free environment. The policy will take effect from 1 July 2007. Smoking is not prohibited in all enclosed (this means if they have a ceiling or roof except for doors, windows or passageways but are wholly enclosed on a permanent or temporary basis) and substantially enclosed premises (this means if they have a ceiling or roof, but have an opening in the walls which is less than half the total area of walls). This includes Parish Council vehicles. This policy applies to employees, customers, Parish Councillors (on council business), visitors and all users.

3.0 Implementation

- 3.1 Overall responsibility for the policy implementation and review rests with The Responsible Financial Officer, Barlow Parish Council. However all employees and users in the village hall must adhere to this policy and support the implementation of this policy. The Responsible Financial Officer will inform all relevant people of this new policy and issue all users and employees with a copy. A copy will be kept on personal files.
- 3.2 Appropriate no smoking signs will be displayed on the entrance to the village hall.

4.0 Non-Compliance

- 4.1 The Parish Council's Disciplinary procedures will be followed if any employee or users do not comply with this policy.
- 4.2 Those who do not comply with the smoke free law may also be liable to a fixed penalty fine or criminal prosecution.

5.0 Help to Stop Smoking

- 5.1 The NHS offers a range of free services to help smokers give up.
- 5.2 You can:
 - visit Gosmokefree.co.uk or
 - ring the NHS smoke free helpline on 0800 1690 169 for details.
 - Text 'GIVE UP' and full postcode to 88088 to find your local NHS Stop Smoking Service.