Member Code of Conduct – Bunny Parish Council

You are a Member or Co-opted Member of Bunny Parish Council and as such are committed to behaving in a manner that is consistent with the following principles to achieve best value for our residents and maintain public confidence in this authority.

SELFLESSNESS: Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

INTEGRITY: Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties.

OBJECTIVITY: In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

ACCOUNTABILITY: Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

OPENNESS: Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

HONESTY: Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

LEADERSHIP: Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

Accordingly, when acting in your capacity as a Member or Co-opted Member

i. You must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person or act to gain financial or other material benefits for yourself, your family, a friend or close associate

ii. You must not place yourself under a financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence you in the performance of your official duties

iii. When carrying out your public duties you must make all choices, such as making public appointments, awarding contracts or recommending individuals for rewards or benefits, on merit

iv. You are accountable for your decisions to the public and you must co-operate fully with whatever scrutiny is appropriate to your office

v. You must be as open as possible about your decisions and actions and the decisions and actions of your authority and should be prepared to give reasons for those decisions and actions

vi. You must declare any private interests, both pecuniary and non-pecuniary, that relate to your public duties and must take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest, including registering and declaring interests in a manner conforming with the procedures set out in the box below

vii. You must, when using or authorising the use by others of the resources of your authority, ensure that such resources are not used improperly for political purposes (including party political purposes) and you must have regard to any applicable Local Authority Code of Publicity made under the Local Government Act 1986

viii. You must promote and support high standards of conduct when serving in your public post, in particular as characterised by the above requirements, by leadership and example

ix. You must have regard to any relevant advice provided to you by Rushcliffe Borough Council's Monitoring Officer, or parish clerk where they are acting pursuant to their statutory duties

x. You must not disclose information given to you in confidence by anyone, or information acquired by you which you believe, or ought reasonably to be aware, is of a confidential nature, except where:-

a. You have the consent of a person authorised to give it
b. You are required by law to do so
c. The disclosure is made to a third party for the purpose of obtaining professional advice provided that the third party
d. The disclosure is:
    i. Reasonable and in the public interest and
    ii. Made in good faith and in compliance with the reasonable requirements of the authority.

xi. Members must promote equality by not unfairly discriminating against any person, and by treating people with respect, regardless of their race, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability

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