

Annesley & Felley Parish Council

Councillor Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected of all members of Annesley & Felley Parish Council when acting in their role as councillor. The Code is designed to promote and maintain high standards of conduct and public confidence in the council.

It reflects the Seven Principles of Public Life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, and leadership.

1. Scope

This Code applies whenever councillors act, claim to act, or give the impression they are acting as a representative of the Parish Council, including use of social media where it relates to council duties.

2. Respect and Behaviour

Councillors must treat others with respect. Bullying, harassment or discrimination toward any person is unacceptable. Councillors must work constructively with officers, fellow councillors, and the public.

3. Equality and Inclusion

Councillors will actively promote equality, inclusion, and fair treatment for all members of the community. Decisions must not unlawfully discriminate against any individual or group.

4. Confidentiality and Information

Confidential information must not be disclosed unless authorised or legally obliged to do so.

5. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Councillors must register and declare disclosable pecuniary interests in accordance with statutory requirements. They must not participate in items where such interests exist, without a dispensation.

6. Other Interests

Councillors must declare any personal interests that could reasonably be regarded as affecting their judgement.

7. Gifts and Hospitality

Councillors must not accept gifts or hospitality that could be seen to influence decision-making. Any gifts or hospitality received valued at £25 or more must be declared.

8. Use of Position and Resources

Council resources must be used only for legitimate council purposes and not for personal or political gain.

9. Social Media

Councillors must ensure online posts and comments remain respectful and uphold the council's reputation. Confidential information must not be shared and councillors must avoid making statements that could bring the council into disrepute.

10. Accountability and Leadership

Councillors must lead by example and be accountable to the public for their decisions and actions.

11. Sanctions and Complaints

Alleged breaches of this Code may be reported to the Monitoring Officer at Ashfield District Council. Councillors must cooperate fully with any investigation. Where a breach is found, appropriate actions may be recommended such as formal apology, training requirements, or removal from positions of responsibility.

Approved and Adopted: 3rd November 2025

Next Review: November 2028