

Bar Hill Parish Council

Community Engagement – Statement of Intent

Aims and Objectives

Bar Hill Parish Council aims to ensure that through the use of a wide range of approaches to community engagement it encourages residents to inform its decision-making process and make an input into any decision which may affect their day to day lives in the Parish.

Bar Hill Parish Council is committed to creating and maintaining effective working relationships with all sectors of the community. The Council recognises that there are different levels of engagement and will endeavour to involve the community in the following ways:

- Inform people about its work and services it provides
- Consult with and see out views of the community
- Encourage community participation in local government
- Collaborate with individuals, community groups and organisations where appropriate to achieve agreed aims for the benefit of the Parish
- Build up effective working relationships within the community and encourage a sense of ownership of assets, infrastructure and new projects

The Community

Bar Hill Parish Council seeks to engage with all sections of the community regardless of age, ability, gender, ethnicity, faith, or sexual orientation.

Provision of information to the community and opportunities for community involvement

Bar Hill Parish Council recognises that members of the community may wish to engage with it at different levels and in a variety of ways, from the occasional email or letter with a suggestion on how a service could be improved to attendance at meetings etc. Bar Hill Parish Council will therefore use many ways to keep the community informed.

Publications: The Parish Council will communicate with parishioners through regular articles in the Bar Hill News magazine.

Website: The Parish Council website www.barhill-pc.gov.uk publishes information about the Parish and its Council. Council agendas, minutes, accounts, and other documents will be regularly posted on the website for parishioners' information.

Direct Access: The Parish Council will display details of all Parish Councillors (name and email address) together with other important points of contact on the noticeboard. This medium will also be used to directly advertise other important events eg notices relating to the annual audit of accounts, casual vacancies, elections, agendas and approved minutes.

Meetings: Notice of all Council meetings is given on the parish notice board and on the website. Parishioners are encouraged to attend meetings and time is set aside at all meetings for public participation, for items on the agenda of that meeting. Parishioners are also encouraged to attend the Annual Parish Meeting.

Role of Council Members and Officers in Community Engagement

Bar Hill Parish Councillors and the Clerk are easily accessible with their contact details on the notice board and website.

In a private capacity they may belong to many other local clubs, societies, and organisations, where they may, if they so wish, promote the work of the Parish Council and be available to Parishioners.