



# Mission Statement

The Weedon Bec Parish Council will:

- promote the improvement and development of the village whilst respecting its rural character and environment
- be open and approachable
- champion the community and act on its behalf
- improve the quality and range of services provided to the community
- encourage and support local community groups where possible
- be transparent in its dealings at meetings and in other media
- expect councillors and the public to be respectful of differing opinions
- not tolerate abusive or threatening behaviour at its meetings or in other media

## **The Parish Council will be INCLUSIVE and EMPOWERING by**

- welcoming residents input and involving them in its work
- supporting any residents who wish to stand for election or become a co-opted councillor
- supporting and assisting any resident who wishes to speak at meetings
- welcoming residents' views via its website, social media and at meetings
- publicising elections and casual vacancies on the parish notice boards, website, Facebook and local paper.

## **The Parish Council will be ACCESSIBLE, OPEN and ACCOUNTABLE by**

- making its decisions in open session
- supplying in advance adequate information to allow residents to be become involved
- publishing a newsletter, maintaining an up to date website and minutes of all meetings
- having clear and understandable policies and procedures which residents can access
- ensuring that contact details of parish councillors are displayed on the main notice board, in leaflets and on the website
- encouraging residents to contribute ideas and suggestions for improvement of the parish infrastructure and amenities

## **The Parish Council will be WELL MANAGED by**

- responding positively and promptly to all requests, complaints and queries from residents or other bodies including Freedom of Information and Data Protection legislations
- reviewing its work and projects on a regular basis and implementing any changes recommended
- ensuring that employees are allowed sufficient hours to complete work and are remunerated accordingly
- providing the parish office with adequate and up to date equipment/facilities
- operating with a minimum of paperwork while remaining cost effective
- offering relevant training to councillors and staff as required
- drawing up an annual budget and precepting accordingly

## **The Parish Council will be FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE by**

- maintaining the financial ability to respond to unforeseen circumstances
- having a robust management and auditing regime
- meeting its legal requirements relating to the audit of accounts
- maintaining an up to date asset register and being a responsible manager of its property
- having clear plans and budgets for the maintenance, replacement and repair of its assets
- undertaking risk assessments where appropriate and necessary

## **The Parish Council will WORK IN PARTNERSHIP by**

- considering opportunities to work with residents, village groups, trusts, charities and the local business community, always providing that the proposal meets identified needs/aims/local commitments
- by offering limited financial assistance/grants to support qualifying local voluntary groups
- ensuring that projects with which the council is statutorily involved will receive support from the parish office as long as they regularly report progress to the council and receive advice
- keeping a list of improvements and projects which it wishes to see in the parish and ensuring that these are regularly reviewed and costed so far as is possible, so that they can be implemented without delay when funds become available