

# **Scarning Parish Council**

## **Community Engagement Policy**

### **1 What is Community Engagement ?**

1.1 The Council is keen to make residents more aware of who we are and what we do. Community Engagement is giving local people a voice and involving them in decisions which affect them and their community.

### **2 Objectives**

2.1 The Council aims to work proactively to improve and strengthen working relationships with our residents and voluntary and community groups. We are committed to engaging residents to become actively involved in decisions that affect them and the community, and to facilitate the delivery of better services by creating a more active and informed community.

### **3 How We Propose to Achieve Our Objectives**

3.1 The Council will:-

- Encourage suggestions and plans from residents on ways to improve the quality and range of our facilities.
- Welcome residents to attend and express their views at our monthly meetings
- Support parish organisations through the allocation of grants
- Promote our activities on Facebook and Next Door
- Promote our activities on our website and the parish website
- Encourage residents to attend the Annual Parish Meeting
- Create working groups to look at future projects
- Have good financial control through policy and procedures to ensure funds are spent on the needs of the community

3.2 In order to encourage residents to attend our meetings, we will host some of our meetings at Scarning School.

3.3 The Council will host its Annual Parish Meeting at the school. The Annual Meeting is a platform for residents to raise any issues relating to the parish. As it is not governed in the same manner as Parish Council meetings, residents can make statements on relevant matters at the meeting.

3.4 The Council will encourage nominations for its Community Award.

3.5 By raising the profile of the Parish Council at events such as fetes, lighting the Beacon and events such as litter picking, bulb planting or tree planting.

## **4. Keeping in Touch**

We keep in touch with residents through the following means:-

4.1 Posts by the Social Media Officer and the Parish Clerk on Next Door and Facebook.

4.2 Information about the Parish Council and its activities on our website

4.3 Publication of the agendas and minutes of our meetings on our website.

4.4 Notification of our meetings on social media and noticeboards.

Approved: March 2025.

To be reviewed: February 2026.