BREASTON PARISH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

ADOPTED: May 2017

Breaston Parish Council has developed this policy with the aim of constructing a standard for engagement with its residents and partners.
It recognises that the services it provides should aim to reflect the needs of its parishioners and the locality and that its residents should be involved in decisions affecting them and their neighbourhood and in shaping the future of their parish.

AIMS

The Parish Council aims to engage and consult its residents and partners on important issues by;

- informing, consulting, and involving
- being inclusive and engaging with all of its residents and partners
- ensuring views are listened to and used to develop, enhance, and improve services, the environment, and the quality of life for residents.

OBJECTIVES

To improve, plan and shape the future of the parish according to local needs and priorities.

- To improve the quality and delivery of services
- To use engagement to inform decision making, ensuring decisions are fit for purpose and meet the needs of the parish
- To enhance the well-being of the parish.
- To be a stronger, more active, and cohesive parish

HOW THIS WILL BE ACHIEVED

Community engagement will be achieved by communicating, consulting, supporting, and working together with its residents.

Communication

Parish Council Newsletters are produced periodically and delivered to all households in the parish and published on the Parish Council website. The Parish Council website aims to provide useful local information and is continually updated. All agendas are advertised as required under the Local Government Act 1972, including on the website, and minutes of meetings are included on the website within a calendar month of the meeting.
Meetings of the Council and its Committees are open to the public and include an opportunity for members of the parish to engage with councillors. All meetings include a time for public participation at the start and end of the meeting.

Consultation

The Council will consult parishioners on important issues and will aim to ensure those most affected are able to put forward an opinion and given an opportunity to make a difference. It will aim to ensure that consultations include all members of the parish by identifying the hard-to-reach groups such as youth, the elderly, the

housebound, the disabled, ethnic minorities etc. that may require establishing different engagement channels for them.

Support –

The Council will aim to support local organisations and engage with them to assist them in meeting their own aims and objectives.
The Council will aim to support local projects and participate in local events to raise awareness of the Council and its aims and objectives.
The Council will aim to support members of the parish in shaping the future of their parish and enable the bringing about of a more cohesive community.

Working Together

Working with residents and partners in finding solutions to local problems will ensure that they will be accepted and fit for purpose.
Working with residents to carry out agreed action plans, will engage the community in working with the Council to enhance the environments and the quality of their lives.
Working together in decision making and policy drafting will ensure they have a voice and can make a difference.