

Stours Parish Council Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy

This policy is for the benefit of all Council members and all communities within the Stours Parish.

Council members are reminded of their general duty to have a due regard to the following:

That Stours Parish Council is committed to the principles of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, taking into account 'protected characteristics' that are protected under the 2010 Equality Act.

'Protected characteristics' include: race and ethnicity, disability, age, religion and belief, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership.

Stours Parish Council also recognises a range of other groups who may face additional disadvantage and discrimination. These include: people who are rurally isolated, people on low incomes/in poverty and single parents.

As a public body, Stours Parish Council aims to play its part in making society fairer by providing equality of opportunity so that all communities within the Parish have opportunities to access our services and to be involved in what we do.

Stours Parish Council aims to

- ensure that information, services and events are accessible
- reduce the barriers people may face due to disability or language by making reasonable adjustments when necessary to allow access
- encourage participation and representation in our processes from people who may normally feel excluded from decision-making processes
- take action to overcome under-representation where needed
- have regard for dependant and caring responsibilities within our council body
- make sure our council members know about the Policy

Dated: 12th November 2020

It was agreed that the following would be added to emails and to the bottom of The Stours Parish Council's headed paper:

'The Stours Parish Council is committed to a policy of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and strives to ensure equal opportunities for all communities within our Parish to access our services and be involved in what we do.'

Adopted on	12th November 2020
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