



SOUTH WONSTON PARISH COUNCIL FACEBOOK POLICY ADOPTED – APRIL 2022

This policy provides councillors, staff, volunteers and residents with guidelines for use of the Parish Council's Facebook page and should be read alongside the Social Media Policy.

The Facebook page supplements the Parish Council website and is a platform for official information and updates, information gathering (polls and surveys), announcements, emergency communications and notification of activities, events and opportunities in the parish. The page is also to be used for messages and comments from residents and as a forum for discussing local issues. To ensure that all exchanges are positive, productive, respectful and considerate and in line with the Parish Council's mission and goals, guidelines have been provided (see below). Difference of opinion and conversation about diverse ideas are allowed, so long as posts are thoughtful and mindful of individual rights of free expression. Generous and accurate sharing of information is encouraged. The Parish Council reserves the right, however, to remove Facebook content which:

- contains abusive, racist, obscene, offensive, insulting, derogatory or threatening language aimed at individuals or organisations
- contains potentially libellous statements
- infringes copyright or any other law
- discloses private personal information without consent contrary to GDPR regulations
- discloses information confidential to the Parish Council
- contains political or commercial advertising
- contains imagery without appropriate permission
- is unrelated to the topic under discussion or irrelevant to the item posted

Please note that the Facebook page is moderated by the Chair, Vice Chair **or nominated Councillor** of the Parish Council. The Moderators are responsible for monitoring and ratifying content and encouraging compliance with the Facebook and Social Media Policies. They will remove negative posts, block or ban access to those who ignore the guidelines.

The Parish Council is not obliged to monitor Facebook 24/7 or answer messages and requests immediately, but will try to ensure any emerging themes or helpful suggestions are passed on to the relevant persons.

Messages via Facebook are not regarded as contacting the Parish Council for official purposes. Official contact details are to be found at www.southwonston-pc.gov.uk