

Cheswick Green Parish Council

CCTV Policy

Introduction

This policy is to control the management, operation, use and confidentiality of the CCTV system installed at Cheswick Green Village Hall covering the surroundings of the Hall and the Recreation Ground. It was prepared after taking account of the Code of Practice published by the Data Protection Commissioner (July 2000). Cheswick Green Parish Council accepts the principles of the 1998 Act based on Data Protection Principles. This policy will be subject to periodic review by the Parish Council after discussion at a full Parish Council meeting to ensure it continues to reflect the public interest and that it meets all legislative requirements.

Background

After discussions at several Parish Council meetings, it was agreed that CCTV cameras should be installed on the outside of the Village Hall and in the foyer and the Parish Council office to monitor areas around the hall that are in the ownership of the Parish Council. Surveillance of the footage is undertaken by members of the Parish Council in addition to their other duties which include an overall remit for safety of visitors and the protection of Parish Council property.

Statement of purpose

To provide a safe and secure environment for those who might visit, work or live in the area. The system will not be used to invade the privacy of any individual, except when carried out in accordance with the law.

The system will be used for the following:

To reduce fear of crime by persons using Parish Council owned areas so they can do so without fear of intimidation.

To reduce vandalism of property and to prevent, deter and detect crime and disorder.

To assist the Police, the Parish Council and other Law Enforcement Agencies with identification, detection, apprehension and prosecution of offenders by examination and using retrievable evidence.

To deter potential offenders by publicly displaying the existence of CCTV including signage.

To assist all emergency services in carrying out their lawful duties.

The Parish Council has overall responsibility for this scheme.