Hanwell Parish Council
Code of Conduct

Hanwell Parish Council has a duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by its members, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Parish councillors are bound by the same code of conduct as are all local councillors. A newly elected councillor has to sign an undertaking, as part of their written declaration of acceptance of office, that they will observe the parish council's code of conduct.

The code of conduct sets out the rules governing the behaviour of councillors in local authorities across the country. Prospective candidates are advised to read the code before standing for election so that they are aware of what will apply to them.

It is based on the Nolan's seven principles of public life:

- **Selflessness** – You must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself.
- **Objectivity** – In carrying out public business you must make decisions on merit, including when making appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards or benefits.
- **Accountability** – You are accountable for your decisions and actions to the public and must submit yourself to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to your office.
- **Openness** – You must be as open as possible about your actions and those of your council and must be prepared to give reasons for those actions.
- **Honesty and integrity** – You must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned, must not behave improperly and must on all occasions avoid the appearance of such behaviour.
- **Leadership** – You must promote and support high standards of conduct when serving in your public post, in particular as characterised by the above requirements, by leadership and example in a way that secures or preserves public confidence.

In accordance with the public trust placed in councillors, a councillor shall on all occasions:

- Act with integrity and honesty
- Act lawfully
- Treat all persons fairly and with respect; and
- Lead by example and act in a way that secures public confidence in the role of councillor.
- Impartially exercise their responsibilities in the interests of the local community
- Not improperly seek to confer and advantage, or disadvantage, on any person
- Avoid conflicts of interest
- Exercise reasonable care and diligence; and
- Ensure that public resources are used prudently in accordance with the local authority's requirements and in the public interest.