

# NORTHSTOWE

## Community Forum Code of Conduct

### Valuing Diversity

*All delegates attending Forum events, must undertake to:*

- Treat all people with respect and act in a way which does not discriminate against or exclude anyone
- Act in a fair and responsible way to all

### Collective Responsibility

*All people coming to Forum events agree by their presence that they will:*

- Observe the authority of the Chair or facilitator at all times
- Listen quietly to and respect the views and experiences of other people contributing
- Agree to and follow the standard of behaviour expected at each event, according to what is happening at that event. (e.g. no interrupting or shouting)
- Allow others to have equal opportunity and time to share their opinions
- Not use inflammatory language or behaviour of any kind

If the above values are not met during a meeting or event, the Chair, facilitator or nominated officer may take one or more of the following steps with the objective of restoring order.

Any person making offensive, insulting, threatening, provocative, slanderous or obscene remarks, or who becomes boisterous, or who threatens or harasses any person or property while at a Forum event, will cause the event to be suspended for the shortest period needed to allow order to be restored.

Any person or people causing an event to be interrupted by reason of behaviours identified above, who does so more than once, can be asked to leave the event by the Chair or staff at the event. This can be for a specific length of time to allow the person or people to cool off or for the rest of the meeting or event, depending on the judgement of the Chair or staff present.

*Where the Chair believes that:*

- The event has become unmanageable, unnecessarily interrupted, harassed or hindered more than once by the same person or people,
- There has been behaviour which threatens the safety of him or herself or others present,

the Chair may opt to suspend the meeting or event until order is restored or to end the meeting or event if they feel that it is appropriate.

Any person or persons causing through their behaviour, any other individual or individuals present at a Forum event to fear for their personal safety **may be subject to immediate removal** from the event and/or the event premises.