# Nicholas Everitt Park Trust

# Code of Conduct

Every Charity Trust should have a Code of Conduct to adhere too. We will adopt the Code used for Oulton Broad Parish Council.

In accordance with S.26 to 37 of the Localism Act 2011 on 15 May 2017 Oulton Broad Parish Council resolved to adopt the Code of Conduct for the purposes of discharging its duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct within its area.

Until otherwise amended or replaced by a decision of the Trust, the Code of Conduct set out below shall hereafter apply to all elected members and any co-opted members entitled to vote on any decisions of the council or its committees, sub committees or joint committees when acting in their capacity as a member of the Trust.

**Preamble**
The Code of Conduct shall be interpreted in accordance with the following seven principles of public life identified by the Committee on Standards in Public Life chaired by Lord Nolan:

**Selflessness -** Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

**Integrity -** Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties.

**Objectivity -** In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

**Accountability -** Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

**Openness -** Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

**Honesty -** Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

**Leadership -** Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

## CODE OF CONDUCT APPLICABLE TO NICHOLAS EVERITT PARK TRUST.

1. You must treat others with respect.

2. You must not:

(i) do anything which may cause your authority to breach any of the Trust’s duties under the Equality Act 2010

(ii) bully any person;

(iii) intimidate or attempt to intimidate any person who is or is likely to be—

(a) a complainant,

(b) a witness, or

(c) involved in the administration of any investigation or proceedings, in relation to an allegation that a member (including yourself) has failed to comply with his or her authority's code of conduct; or

(iv) do anything which compromises or is likely to compromise the impartiality of those who work for, or on behalf of, your council.

3. You must not:

(i) disclose information given to you in confidence by anyone, or information acquired by you which you believe, or ought reasonably to be aware, is of a confidential nature, except where:

(a) you have the consent of a person authorised to give it;

(b) you are required by law to do so;

(c) the disclosure is made to a third party for the purpose of obtaining professional advice provided that the third party agrees not to disclose the information to any other person; or

(d) the disclosure is reasonable, in the public interest, made in good faith and in compliance with the reasonable requirements of the authority; or

(ii) prevent another person from gaining access to information to which that person is entitled by law.

4. You must not conduct yourself in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing your office or authority into disrepute.

5. You:

(i) must not use or attempt to use your position as a member improperly to confer on or secure for yourself or any other person, an advantage or disadvantage; and

(ii) must, when using or authorising the use by others of the resources of your authority—

(a) act in accordance with your authority's reasonable requirements;

(b) ensure that such resources are not used improperly for political purposes (including party political purposes); and

(ii) must have regard to any applicable Local Authority Code of Publicity made under the Local Government Act 1986.

6. When reaching decisions on any matter you must have regard to any relevant advice provided to you by:

 (a) your Trust Chairman; or

(b) your Trust Clerk,

where that officer is acting pursuant to his or her statutory duties.

6.1 You must give reasons for all decisions in accordance with any statutory requirements and any reasonable additional requirements imposed by your authority.

**7.** Trustees with Council Tax arrears

Section 106 Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires a councillor with two months or more council tax arrears to disclose this at the start of any meeting discussing the precept, the budget or any decision affecting this. The legislation precludes any such councillor from voting on any aspect of the precept and related decisions.

**The applies to all local authorities including parish councils. It is an important restriction and should be brought to the attention of all councillors and form part of the induction of any new members.**