



Tetsworth Parish Council

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Data Protection Policy

The Data Protection Act 1998, to be superseded by the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018 sets out high standards for the handling of personal information and protecting individuals' rights for privacy. It also regulates how personal information can be collected, handled and used. The Data Protection Act and now the GDPR apply to anyone holding personal information about people electronically or on paper.

As a local government authority, Tetsworth Parish Council has a number of procedures in place to ensure that it complies with current legislation concerning personal information. The Parish Council has also notified the Information Commissioner that it holds personal data about individuals.

When dealing with personal data, the Tetsworth Parish Council Clerk and Councillors must ensure that:

Data is processed fairly and lawfully This means that personal information should only be collected from individuals if the clerk and Councillors have been open and honest about why they want the personal information.

Data is processed for specified purposes only

Data is relevant to what it is needed for Data will be monitored on a regular basis so that only data that is needed will be held.

Data is accurate and kept up to date Personal data should be accurate, if it is not it will be corrected.

Data is not kept longer than it is needed Data will not be kept for longer than it is needed for its original purpose.

Data is processed in accordance with the rights of individuals This means that individuals must be informed, upon request, of all the personal information held about them.

Data is kept securely This means that only staff and Councillors can access the data. It will be stored securely so it cannot be accessed by members of the public.

Lawful Basis for Processing Personal Data There are six available lawful bases for processing personal data. The Parish Council has reviewed the data held and determined the lawful basis upon which it is held and the purpose for which it is held. See Table below.

Storing and accessing data Tetsworth Parish Council recognises its responsibility to be open with people when taking personal details from them. This means that councillors and Clerk must be honest about why they want a particular piece of personal information. If, for example, a member of the public gives their phone number to the Clerk or a member of Tetsworth Parish Council, this will only be used for the purpose it has been given and will not be disclosed to anyone else. Tetsworth Parish Council may hold personal information about individuals such as their addresses and telephone numbers. These will be kept in a secure location at the home of the Parish Clerk and are not available for public access. All such data stored on the clerk's computer is password protected. Once data is not needed anymore, is out of date or has served its use, it will be shredded or deleted from the computer.

The Parish Council is aware that people have the right to access any personal information that is held about them. If a person requests to see any data that is being held about them:

- They must be sent all of the personal information that is being held about them

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- There must be an explanation for why it has been stored
- There must be a list of who has seen it
- It must be sent within 40 days
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Processing of Special Category Data

Certain data such as race, religion, sexual orientation is classed as Special Category data. Tetsworth Parish Council has no need to hold or process such data.

Disclosure of personal information If a Councillor needs to access personal information to help carry out their duties, this is acceptable. They are only able to access as much personal information as necessary and it should only be used for that specific purpose. However, before they access any sensitive personal information about a person, they would need consent to do this from the Parish Clerk.

Data should never be used for political reasons unless the data subjects have consented.

Tetsworth Parish Council does not divulge personal data for marketing or surveys.

Confidentiality

Tetsworth Parish Council councillors and the clerk must be aware that when complaints or queries are made, they must remain confidential unless the subject gives permission otherwise. When handling personal data, this must also remain confidential.

October 2025

Lawful Basis for Processing Personal Data

Data	Held by	Purpose	Legal Basis	Comment
Councillor names, addresses, phone nos, emails, photos	Parish Clerk	Communication and administration of council business	Public Task	
Contact details for all organisations with which the parish council conducts financial business	Responsible Financial Officer	Administration of council finances	Public Task	
Contact details for people who communicate with the parish council, including other village, district and county organisations	Parish Clerk, Chairman and Councillors	Smooth running of council business	Public Task	Mix of personal and business contact details
Contact details for individuals, businesses and consultants involved in the Neighbourhood Plan	Chairman, NPSG	Communicating and consultation regarding the NP	Legal obligation	
Planning applications	Parish Clerk	Parish Council review of all applications	Public Task	Open Source data
Electoral Register	Parish Clerk	Record of all eligible electors	Public Task	
Maintenance Contractor details	Parish Clerk	To allow for quotations and to set up contracts	Contract	