

Waltham Parish Council WhatsApp Group Privacy Statement

This WhatsApp group has been created to support communication and collaboration between council representatives and selected external participants.

Purpose of the Group

The group is intended for sharing relevant updates, information, and discussion related to council activities, projects, or services.

Personal Data and Visibility

By joining this group, you acknowledge that:

- Your **phone number, name, and profile picture** (if set) will be visible to all group members, including individuals who are not council employees.
- You may also see the contact details of other group members.

Use of Information

- Information shared within this group should be treated as confidential where appropriate and used only for the intended purpose of the group.
- Members must not copy, share, or distribute messages, images, or contact details outside the group without consent, unless required for official purposes.

Responsible Use

All members are expected to:

- Avoid sharing sensitive personal data unless it is necessary and appropriate.
- Comply with relevant data protection laws (including UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018).

Data Security

While WhatsApp provides end-to-end encryption, it is not an official council system. Members should:

- Avoid sharing highly confidential or sensitive information.
- Report any concerns about data misuse to the group administrator or council contact.

Leaving the Group

Participation is voluntary. You may leave the group at any time, but information previously shared may remain visible to other members.

Contact

If you have any questions about how your data is used, please contact the Parish Clerk