

Website Accessibility statement for Meppershall Parish Council

This accessibility statement applies to meppershall.org

This website is run by Meppershall Parish Council. We're working to ensure the site is accessible to as many users as possible. For example, that means you are able to:

- change background colours
- zoom in up to 500% without the text spilling off the screen
- navigate most of the website using just a keyboard
- navigate most of the website using speech recognition software
- listen to most of the website using a screen reader (including the most recent versions of JAWS, NVDA and VoiceOver)

We've also made the website text as simple as possible to understand.

[AbilityNet](#) has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

How accessible this website is

We know some parts of this website are not fully accessible:

- the text will not reflow in a single column when you change the size of the browser window
- It is not currently possible to edit contrast levels or invert colours of the site
- It is not currently possible to change the font face, size or colour
- It is not currently possible to underline or highlight links
- You cannot greyscale images
- Some images do not have alt tags or descriptions for necessary visual elements
- you cannot modify the line height or spacing of text
- most older PDF documents are not fully accessible to screen reader software
- live video streams do not have captions
- some of our online forms are difficult to navigate using just a keyboard
- you cannot skip to the main content when using a screen reader
- there's a limit to how far you can magnify the map on our 'contact us' page

Feedback and contact information

We're always looking to improve the accessibility of this website and we welcome your feedback on the accessibility of the Council website. Please let us know if you encounter accessibility barriers on the Council website:

- Email: clerk@meppershall.org
- Phone: 07930 813808

- Post: Meppershall Parish Council c/o 30 Cherry Trees, Lower Stondon, Bedfordshire, SG16 6DT

We will consider your feedback and / or request and get back to you in 10 days working days.

Enforcement procedure

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is responsible for enforcing the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 (the 'accessibility regulations'). If you're not happy with how we respond to your complaint, [contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service \(EASS\)](#).

Technical information about this website's accessibility

Meppershall Parish Council is committed to making its website accessible, in accordance with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

Compliance status

[Note: say that the website is fully compliant if the website meets WCAG 2.1 AA standard in full. Say that it's partially compliant if it meets most requirements of the WCAG 2.1 AA standard. If it does not meet most requirements of the WCAG 2.1 AA standard, say that it's not compliant.]

If your website is either partially compliant or not compliant WCAG 2.1 AA standard, you'll need to explain why. This will be due to one or both of the following:

- non-compliances - this means the content in question is in scope of the regulations, but there's an accessibility problem with it
- an exemption - this means the inaccessible content is out of scope of the regulations, or it'd be a disproportionate burden for you to make it accessible

There's a legally required way of expressing the compliance status of your website, so do not change it. The 3 options are as follows:]

This website is fully compliant with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1](#) AA standard.

This website is partially compliant with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1](#) AA standard, due to [insert one of the following: 'the non-compliances', 'the exemptions' or 'the non-compliances and exemptions'] listed below.

This website is not compliant with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1](#) AA standard. The [insert one of the following: 'non-compliances', 'exemptions' or 'non-compliances and exemptions'] are listed below.

[Note: delete the options that do not apply.]

Non-accessible content

The content listed below is non-accessible for the following reasons.

Non-compliance with the accessibility regulations

Some images do not have a text alternative, so people using a screen reader cannot access the information. This fails WCAG 2.1 success criterion 1.1.1 (non-text content).

We plan to add text alternatives for all images by September 2020. When we publish new content we'll make sure our use of images meets accessibility standards.

Navigation and accessing information

There's no way to skip the repeated content in the page header (for example, a 'skip to main content' option).

It's not always possible to change the device orientation from horizontal to vertical without making it more difficult to view the content.

It's not possible for users to change text size without some of the content overlapping.

Interactive tools and transactions

Some of our interactive forms are difficult to navigate using a keyboard. For example, because some form controls are missing a 'label' tag.

Our forms are built and hosted through third party software and 'skinned' to look like our website.

We've assessed the cost of fixing the issues with navigation and accessing information, and with interactive tools and transactions. We believe that doing so now would be a [disproportionate burden](#) within the meaning of the accessibility regulations. We will make another assessment when the supplier contract is up for renewal, likely to be before the end of 2020.

Content not within the scope of the accessibility regulations

The following are currently exempt from the Accessibility regulations

- pre-recorded audio and video published before 23 September 2020
- live audio and video
- heritage collections like scanned manuscripts
- PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018 – unless needed to use a service.

- maps – information may be available in address format
- third party content under someone else’s control
- content on intranets or extranets published before 23 September 2019
- archived websites if not needed for services and they are not updated

What we’re doing to improve accessibility

A new website is currently under construction. We hope that the new website will be functional from 1st October 2020.

Assessment approach

The Council assessed the accessibility of the website by the following approaches:

- Self-evaluation

Preparation of this accessibility statement

This statement was prepared on 2nd September 2020. It was last reviewed on 2nd September 2020

This website was last tested on 26th August 2020. The test was carried out by the Clerk to the Council and our IT Working Group members.