

Accessibility Statement for the Website of Dickens Heath Parish Council

This accessibility statement applies to the website of Dickens Heath Parish Council - dickensheathpc.org.uk

The website is run by Dickens Heath Parish Council and we want as many people as possible to be able to use it. For example, that means you should be able to do the following:

- Change colours, contrast levels and fonts
- Zoom in up to 300% without the text spilling off the screen
- Navigate most of the website using just a keyboard
- Navigate most of the website using a screen reader (including the most recent versions of JAWS, NVDA and VoiceOver)

We've tried to make the website text as simple as possible to understand. AbilityNet (<https://mcmw.abilitynet.org.uk/>) has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

How Accessible is this Website?

The website is designed with the following Accessibility Features in mind:

- Keyboard Navigation - to assist non-mouse users
- Controls (like buttons) are designed to be machine readable, screen reader readable and keyboard accessible
- Skip Links to allow screen reader and keyboard only users to skip directly to navigation and main content areas
- Forms should have appropriate labels
- Headings are intended to be well structured
- ARIA Landmark Roles allow screen reader users to jump to parts of the page carrying out a particular role (e.g. banner, main, search)
- Content Links should always be underlined (this does not apply where a link is not within a body of text – so menu items may not be underlined)
- Repetitive Link Text is avoided
- Contrasts between elements of pages and their backgrounds should be strong enough to allow readability
- Images will have Alt attributes and those used purely as part of page design will be in the CSS rather than the page itself

- Media such as video and image slideshows should not automatically start when a page loads, the user should initiate it

In addition to these features there should not be any use of positive “tabindex” attribute or any uses of the “accesskey” attribute and any new windows or tabs should only open after a warning given to the user.

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

- We do use some plugins e.g. Facebook that have their own design and styling. We try to make sure these are accessible, but we don’t have direct control of their appearance
- You cannot modify the line height or spacing of text, however most browsers can be configured to help with this (see AbilityNet <https://mcmw.abilitynet.org.uk/>)
- We have avoided buttons with empty values as far as possible, but they are used as part of the site navigation structure
- Most older PDF documents are not fully accessible to screen reader software

What to Do if You Can’t Access Parts of our Website

If you need information on this website in a different format – for example accessible PDF, large print, easy read, audio recording or braille – then please contact us using the following details:

Email: clerk@dickensheathpc.org.uk

Phone: 07772 469271

We will consider your request and get back to you within 20 working days. If you cannot view the map on the ‘Community’ page, please email or ring us for directions.

Reporting Accessibility Problems with this Website

We are always looking to improve the accessibility of our website. If you find any problems that are not listed on this page, or think we are not meeting accessibility requirements, then please contact the Parish Clerk on:

Email: clerk@dickensheathpc.org.uk

Phone: 07772 469271

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, please contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service (EASS) (<https://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com/>).

Contact Us:

Parish Clerk: Helen Marczak

Address: c/o Dickens Heath Library, Old Dickens Heath Rd, Dickens Heath, Solihull, B90 1SD

Phone: 07772 469271

Email: clerk@dickensheathpc.org.uk

Technical Information about this Website's Accessibility

Dickens Heath 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.

This website is currently partially compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 (<https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/>) AA standard due to the non-compliances listed below:

- We do use some plugins, e.g. Facebook, that have their own design and styling. We try to make sure these are accessible, but we don't have direct control of their appearance.
- You cannot modify the line height or spacing of text, however most browsers can be configured to help with this (see AbilityNet <https://mcmw.abilitynet.org.uk/>)
- We have avoided buttons with empty values as far as possible, but they are used as part of the site navigation structure. This will be assessed again at a future date.
- Many older PDF or Word documents are not fully accessible to screen reader software. Any new PDFs or Word documents that we publish will meet accessibility standards.

Preparation of this Accessibility Statement

This statement was prepared on September 18th 2020, and it will be reviewed regularly.

This website was last tested on September 17th 2020, and the test was carried out by EmmsIT.