

## **Accessibility statement for Rackenford & Creacombe Parish Council**

Rackenford & Creacombe Parish Council rents pages on the [www.rackenford – devon.co.uk](http://www.rackenford-devon.co.uk) website in order to make essential parish council information available to the public and also to support the provision of general information about the parish. This is a simple and robust website in which all information is in the universal PDF format. Help is offered if you have any difficulty with this (see the front page). The site is accessible to smart phones.

This accessibility statement applies to the Parish Council section. We want as many people as possible to be able to use these pages, including people with disabilities and those who use **assistive technologies** to browse the net.

AbilityNet (<https://mcmw.abilitynet.org.uk/>) has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability. The BBC's accessibility pages (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/accessibility>) give advice on changing settings. A **screen reader** is a programme which reads out the information displayed on your computer and there are a variety of these available via the internet.

**Plain English** is used for minutes as far as possible; if you don't understand something please let us know.

### **Feedback and contact information**

If you need information in a different format such as on paper, in larger print, by phone or email, please contact the Parish Clerk on [rackenfordparish@gmail.com](mailto:rackenfordparish@gmail.com) who will get back to you within 10 working days. If you find any problems which cannot be dealt with as above or think we are not meeting accessibility requirements please also contact the Clerk. Please note that we have no offices. If you are not happy with how we respond to your requests, contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service (EASS) (<https://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com/>).

### **Technical information about this website's accessibility**

The Rackenford & Creacombe 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. We know that this website is not currently compliant with the Web Content Accessibility

Guidelines version 2.1 (<https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/>) AA standard. There is content not fully accessible to speech recognition software, although all our documents have links to HTML pages which can be provided on request. We aim to ensure that new documents will meet accessibility standards as these become more affordable.

### **Disproportionate burden**

We've assessed the cost of fixing issues with navigation and accessing information and with interactive tools and transactions. We believe that doing so now would be a disproportionate burden (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/952/regulation7/made>) within the meaning of the accessibility regulations. We are a small parish with a population of under 400. Our annual precept is around £6,000 and the cost of moving to a WCAG compliant software platform has been assessed at £1400, together with annual service charges which would be at least three times their present level. We would also be withdrawing essential support from the website covering the parish as a whole, which we believe is of importance to the community. We will make another assessment in a year's time when costs may have fallen.

This statement was prepared on September 15 2020. The website pages were tested in July 2020 by [www.websitedevelopment.ltd.uk](http://www.websitedevelopment.ltd.uk) who estimated the costs of full compliance.