



KEEP BRITAIN TIDY RISK ASSESSMENT – General Public		
Assessors Name: Parish Clerk	Assessment Date: 26/03/25	Review Date: March 2026
Area: Weston on the Green Village		

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	What further action is necessary?	Action by whom? (Full Name)	Action by when?
Lack of information and awareness	Volunteers not knowing safety procedures	Prior to the litter-pick taking place, all volunteers should be given a Briefing and Safety Talk, covering any risks and general information about correct use of the equipment, any particular issues to be aware of regarding the site.	None	Event organiser	On the day
Safeguarding children	Children and vulnerable adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children up to the age of 18 and any vulnerable adults to be accompanied by responsible adult (parent, carer). No child to be out of sight of a responsible adult. All event volunteers to wear hi-viz jackets to allow easy identification. In the event of an incident, immediately inform the local Police and any other relevant agencies. 	Check for unaccompanied children and confirm supervision ratios are satisfactory. We use the NSPCC ratios as a guide: 0 - 2 years - 1 adult to 3 children. 2 - 3 years - 1 adult to 4 children. 4 - 8 years - 1 adult to 6 children. 9 - 12 years - 1 adult to 8 children. 13 - 18 years - 1 adult to 10 children.	Event organiser	On the day
Aggression/abuse from members of the public	Risk of conflict with member of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We do not recommend that you approach members of the public to challenge inappropriate behaviour such as dog fouling or littering. Ignore this behaviour and report it if necessary either to your local authority or police if a confrontation occurs. 	Report any incidents to the police. For an immediate threat or emergency use 999. For a non-emergency please use 101 to report the incident.	Event organiser	On the day



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not trespass onto private property whilst litter picking. 	Please also report the incident to the Parish Clerk.		
Extreme Weather	Volunteers risk sunstroke, sunburn, dehydration and heat exhaustion due to hot weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers advised to dress appropriately for weather conditions. Gloves to be worn on all occasions. Advise volunteers to take regular breaks and seek shade if necessary. Volunteers advised to wear sun hats and sun cream, re-apply as needed. Volunteers advised to drink plenty. 	<p>If under 18's are present parent or guardian should supervise closely.</p> <p>Organiser to cancel event if weather is extreme.</p>	Event organiser	On the day
	Volunteers risk discomfort from cold weather , wind and rain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers instructed to wear warm and waterproof clothing, thick socks and sturdy boots. Volunteers instructed to avoid areas where debris could come loose, i.e. trees, poorly maintained structures in high winds. If lightning occurs, workers and volunteers are instructed to cease using litter pickers and stop the event. Volunteers instructed to warm up and stretch prior to event during cold weather and to pay particular attention not to overexert themselves in order to avoid back injury. 	<p>If under 18's are present, parent or guardian should supervise closely.</p> <p>Organiser to cancel event if weather is extreme.</p>	Event organiser	On the day
Vehicles on roads and in car parks	Volunteers risk injury through contact with moving vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children to remain under supervision and in sight of a responsible adult at all times, preferably by a parent or guardian. Children not to pick litter from the road but to remain on pavements and paths. Briefing to include warning on roads, speed limits and any known hazards. Briefing to include warning to always focus when crossing streets and be aware of surroundings at all times. 	Check for any unusual hazards on the day itself	Event organiser	On the day



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of any vehicle, potentially trying to park, maintain vigilance, give warning to others of approaching vehicles. • Volunteers advised that they must not work on roads. • Tabards or hi-vis to be worn at all times. 			
Electric fences	Electrocution, shock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always assume electric fences are live. • Warn volunteers not to touch electric fences. 	<p>Seek medical attention where appropriate.</p> <p>Please also report the incident to the Parish Clerk.</p>	Event organiser	On the day
Collection of litter – manual handling	Workers and volunteers risk injuries or back pain from handling heavy loads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers instructed not to over-fill bags or try to carry heavy items. • Volunteers advised to be aware of their own limitations by the event organiser during the briefing and not lift heavy items found during the clean-up. • Volunteers with pre-existing injuries are not to lift bags or heavy items. • No more than one bag at a time to be carried. • Under 18's are always supervised by a parent or guardian. • If too heavy to handle, please leave the object in place and report it to the organiser to arrange removal by the council. 	Organiser to ensure this is covered in the safety briefing delivered ahead of the clean-up starting.	Event organiser	On the day



Collection of litter – toxic materials / hazardous chemicals	Volunteers risk coming into contact with toxic or hazardous material.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers instructed to never approach suspicious looking containers with or without hazard warning badges. • Any suspicious drums, materials or containers with contents not identifiable to be left untouched and Environment Agency Pollution Hotline to be contacted (Tel: 0800 7312453). 	Organiser to conduct site survey at beginning of clean up and contact the Environment Agency Pollution Hotline (Tel: 0800 7312453) if suspicious or possibly hazardous barrels, containers or materials are found.	Event organiser	On the day
Collection of litter – fly-tipped asbestos	Illness from contact with asbestos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is an accumulation of waste which would obviously have been fly-tipped deliberately on site, then this should be left alone and the relevant local authority with responsibility for fly-tipping clearance informed. • It is possible that asbestos could be found amongst smaller accumulations of litter that may not appear to be fly tipping. A simple asbestos ID chart can be found on the HSE website here: http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/gallery.htm 	<p>Undertake an on-site review of the area, identify any hazards and brief volunteers before event begins.</p> <p>Do not litter-pick fly-tipped rubbish.</p> <p>Please also report the incident to the Parish Clerk.</p>	Event organiser	On the day
Collection of litter – sharps, syringes and medical waste	Volunteers risk injury from sharp items, infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers finding syringes should not touch them, but immediately notify the event organiser. All work must then cease in this particular area. • Any accidental piercing by syringe should be immediately treated at medical practice or A&E. • All volunteers to use litter pickers and gloves. • Volunteers instructed never to put sharp objects in bags. • Broken glass to be collected in glass bucket and disposed of safely at end of the event. • Volunteers advised not to handle sharps, i.e. needles, syringes, unless trained to do so. • Volunteers advised to alert organiser if sharps are found and if able, they will arrange proper disposal using sharps kit / by the council. 	<p>Organiser to ensure this is covered in the safety briefing delivered ahead of the clean-up starting.</p> <p>Organisers to check that litter picking tools are in good, clean condition.</p> <p>Remain vigilant at all time during the clean-up and end the clean up immediately if syringes are found.</p>	Event organiser	On the day



Discovery of ordnance	Unexploded bombs, shells and flares, severe cuts bruising, severe burns, broken bones, eye damage, shock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you or any volunteer suspect an object to be a type of ordnance, stop what you are doing and report this immediately to the event organiser and the emergency services must be contacted (call 999). 		Event organiser	On the day
Accidents and emergencies	Workers risk injury during event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Aid kits are available around the village e.g. in pub, village shop and people are also close to home. A defibrillator can be found on the side of the Village Hall. Event organiser to have mobile phone in case of emergency. In the event of an emergency, event organiser to call 999. Before each litter pick takes place, organiser updates and keeps a copy of details of local walk in centres and accident & emergency departments – for minor injuries. 		Event organiser	On the day
Slips, Trips and falls	Volunteers risk slips, trips and falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers advised to wear supportive, slip resistant footwear and no flip flops. Take care when negotiating steps. Volunteers advised to take extra care on overgrown areas, rocky areas or wet/muddy areas. Volunteers instructed to take extra care when carrying heavy bags. Volunteers advised of any hazardous areas and informed that these are to be avoided. If in doubt, don't carry on if an area looks slippery or dangerous. 	<p>Event organiser to remind volunteers to take care when pavements are slippery from rain, leaves, ice, snow etc.</p> <p>Event organiser to cancel event if weather is sufficiently extreme.</p>	Event organiser	On the day
Trees, shrubs	Trips, cuts & eye pokes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware of low hanging branches and exposed tree and shrub roots. 	Obtain medical attention in the event of injury.		On the day



Irritant and dangerous plants	Workers and volunteers risk injury from irritant and dangerous plants, e.g. Giant Hogweed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers advised not to touch any potentially irritant and dangerous plants. • If unsure or concerned about presence of irritant and dangerous plants in the area, organiser to advise relevant authority, i.e. Local Authority. 	Organiser to ensure this is covered in the safety briefing delivered ahead of the clean-up starting.	Event organiser	On the day
Dog fouling / faeces	Toxocara canis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not touch dog faeces. • Do not use litter-pickers. • Always wear gloves and use a plastic spade when removing dog faeces. • If a volunteer steps in dog faeces, clean shoes if possible. • If found warn others in the vicinity. • If touched, thoroughly wash your hands. • Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. • Seek medical attention where appropriate. 	Organiser to ensure this is covered in the safety briefing delivered ahead of the clean-up starting.	Event organiser	On the day
Animals – Domestic, wild & farm	Lyme Disease carried by animal ticks & bites/scratches, stings from animals/ shock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid contact with animals. Avoid contact with animal faeces. • Search separate Guidance on Lyme Disease. • Avoid moving through bracken or vegetation while wearing shorts or short sleeved shirts. • Beware of adders, do not pick up or touch any snakes. 	<p>Seek medical attention as soon as possible after being bitten, stung or scratched.</p> <p>Wash hands immediately after contact with faeces.</p> <p>Avoid touching eyes or mouth.</p>	Event organiser	On the day
Aggressive dogs	Workers and volunteers risk injury from dog attack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers advised of the threat of aggressive dogs and to not approach any unknown dog. • Avoid areas if any evidence of aggressive dogs. • Volunteers to maintain vigilance for dogs off leads. • Dog Walkers in vicinity to be advised by group leader of the litter pick and to keep dogs under control. 	Check site for evidence of dogs.	Event organiser	On the day



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children to remain under adult supervision and within sight of adults at all times. • Adopt recommended posture if confronted by a dog – do not look in eyes, look down, do not run, pull limbs into body. • Retreat slowly. • Visit A&E if bitten or attacked. • Report attack to the Police and refer to the government guidance on controlling dogs in public if you feel this is necessary: https://www.gov.uk/control-dog-public/report-a-dog 			
COVID 19 Risk	All volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers advised to wash hands before and after litter pick. Regular use of hand sanitiser advised. • Litter pickers and gloves to be used. • Hi-viz jackets worn and litter pickers will be washed following event. 	Equipment to be provided.	Event organiser	On the day