

Risk Assessment for Village Maintenance and tidying

Activity date 20 Oct 19
Activity title Autumn clean up day
Activity location Parwich Village and approaches
Assessor Andrew Martin (Parish Council Clerk)
Assessment reviewed 19 Oct 19

Description of activities identified

Painting play equipment and benches
 Control of vegetation around boundaries
 Control of vegetation in brook and sheep wash
 Control of vegetation around kerbs
 Tidying of building contents
 Litter picking and general tidying

Hazards and risks	Likelihood (Max 3)	Severity (Max 3)	Risk (LxS) (Max 9=3x3)	Controls
Painting: Risk of paint splashes 1. Use of paint brushes - Risk of splashes to the eyes, paint on peoples hands and paint on clothing. 2. Products used: Play equipment - Hammerite Direct to rust metal paint - high VOC Hammerite brush cleaner and thinners - very high VOC Application outside by brush means there are no significant chemical exposure risks. The products can be a skin irritant.	3	1	3	1. Volunteers should wear glasses or safety glasses to prevent splashes to their eyes. 2. Gloves should be worn to prevent skin irritation. Volunteers should wear work clothes where splashes of paint and staining will not be an issue. 3. Skin and clothes should be washed after the event to avoid skin irritation. 4. Instructions on the product tins should be followed. 5. The council do not accept liability for any clothing damage resulting from painting.
General tidying : Manual handling risks : Risks include back strains There a number of tidying jobs which may require lifting and moving heavy items.	2	2	4	1. Volunteers manually handling heavy items should be physically capable. This is an assessment that each volunteer should make about themselves. 2. Volunteers must 'ask for help' wherever necessary. 3. Gloves and other protection should be worn.
Removal of vegetation : Manual handling of equipment and waste : Risks include back strains and contact with equipment used to remove debris from the site. The job of moving the cut debris for disposal can be heavy work.	2	2	4	1. Volunteers manually handling grass, brambles and debris should be physically capable. This is an assessment that each volunteer should make about themselves. 2. Volunteers should 'ask for help' where ever necessary. 3. Gloves and other protection should be worn. 4. Heavier duty gloves (cut resistant) should be considered when handling brambles or sharp
Road traffic : Risk of road traffic accidents Work may take place at boundaries adjacent to roads. With so many helpers (which will inevitably involve some younger children), we will need to look at measures of traffic calming and warning drivers and cyclists of the presence of people, in particular younger children.	1	3	3	1. Traffic calming measures should be implemented near to the sites where activities are taking place. This could include cones, signs and a notice on the blog to advise people to slow down and "strategic parking". 2. Volunteers should wear clothing that is easily visible when working on roads. 3. Volunteers should not work alone on remote roads.
Mechanised machinery - Risk of people being run over, risk of contact injuries To help clear away the debris we may use vehicles supplied by local people.	1	3	3	1. Volunteers must be trained and skilled if they are to operate vehicles. 2. Volunteers using vehicles must be aware of people around them at all times when moving. 3. Volunteers (especially young children) should be cautious and aware of the dangers with the vehicles and should not go near to the vehicles when they are switched on, or being operated.

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General use of domestic garden or other tools, including power tools : risk of injury from the use of tools, or from others using tools. Hazards include cuts and impacts.	2	2	4	1. Those using power tools must be suitably skilled / competent and should wear appropriate personal protective equipment. 2. Volunteers must take care of their own safety and that of fellow volunteers 3. Children should not use tools or equipment unless they have been trained and/or have been given permission. Children must take extra care when using any tools and be aware of others around them. 4. For minor injuries ask a resident or vehicle owner for use of their first aid kit and clean water for washing and dressing cuts.
Use of strimmers or hedge cutters. The most significant risk from strimmers or hedge cutters is flying debris and cuts when moving cut material.	2	2	4	1. Volunteers must be trained/competent and skilled if they are to operate strimmers. 2. Strimming requires significant effort and regular breaks and fluid intake is essential. Volunteers should also be aware of the physical strains using a strimmer and must therefore be physically capable. 3. Volunteers should wear the appropriate personal protective equipment, especially eye protection, gloves and safety footwear. 4. Volunteers helping to clear away the cut materials, should not work near to the strimmers and should also wear gloves and eye protection to protect from flying debris.
General safety of children : risk of falling, inappropriate use of tools, risk of traffic or on-site vehicle incidents It is vital that children are involved in the clean-up activities and are engaged in community clean-up projects. Children (depending upon their age / abilities and maturities) will need varying levels of supervision. Where possible the parents of the children should be present to help supervise them. Volunteers can not be wholly held responsible for other peoples children.	3	3	9	1. Parents of 'volunteer children' should understand that they allow their children to attend the clean-up activities at their own risk. There will be <u>no formal</u> supervision of your children by the other volunteers. 2. Children <9years old must be accompanied by a responsible adult and supervised at all times. 3. Children should not use tools or equipment unless they have been trained and/or have been given permission. Children must take extra care when using any tools and be aware of others around them. 4. Children should wear appropriate clothing for the activities they will be performing. 5. It is important that children look out for each other 6. The greatest risk for children will be the on-site traffic movement of tipper and dumpsters. It is known that children for fun may safely ride on these vehicles, if we are to avoid accidents it is vital that these children listen very carefully and follow the safety instructions of vehicle drivers.

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Litter picking - Risk of cuts, contamination and disease: Generally most litter will be food wrappers, drinks bottles (plastic or glass) and other forms of waste. It is possible that some of the litter will be sharp, may contain degrading food and mould, insects may be present and there is a possibility that animal faeces will be present around the areas.	2	2	4	1. Volunteers should wear suitable gloves when handling litter and/or litter pickers when provided. 2. Any animal faeces should only be handled by adults using disposable gloves and/or a disposable plastic bag.
Water - Slip, trip and fall into the brook or sheep wash: There could be slips or falls into the water given the types of tasks that will be undertaken. The banks are less than 1m high and the water is very shallow. As people will not be working alone any risk of drowning is very low.	2	1	2	1. Volunteers should wear suitable footwear e.g. wellington boots with a good grip. 2. Volunteers should take care of themselves and if necessary ask for assistance climbing up and down the banks. 3. Volunteers should not work alone.
Water - Other contamination and diseases: There are <u>no known</u> contaminants or diseases present within the stream that are likely to cause harm to human health.	1	1	1	1. Following the pond and bank clearance volunteers should wash thoroughly to remove and dirt and stream water, especially before consuming food
Pneumonia, cold, overheating: It is likely that the water temperature will be cold during the activities. The outside temperature during the activity at the time assessment was completed is unknown. It could be that volunteers will witness both cold and hot times (i.e. hot once they have been actively helping).	2	1	2	1. Volunteers should come dressed in appropriate clothes for the weather conditions on the day of the event. Appropriate footwear is essential. 2. If there are extreme weather conditions i.e. thunderstorms, high winds, lightening strikes, etc. then the activity will be suspended or cancelled. 3. Volunteers could also consider bringing with them a flask with a hot or drink as appropriate. 4. Refreshments will be provided after the event.