

**Aylmerton Parish Council**  
**RISK ASSESSMENT FOR VOLUNTEER LITTER CLEARANCE OR GARDENING**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Risk(s) Identified</b>	<b>H/M/L</b>	<b>Management/control of risk</b>	<b>Review/Assess/Revise</b>
Animals/insects.	Bites or scratches  Weils disease	L  M	Wear appropriate clothing. Beware of loose dogs or livestock. Avoid contact with animals. Seek medical attention if bitten or stung. All volunteers to be aware of risk of Weils disease and wear gloves and thoroughly wash hands after working near pond. Gel hand sanitiser to be available to volunteers.	
Lifting heavy objects	Strains	L/M	Do not move heavy objects unless necessary. Use mechanical aids or handle with an appropriate number of people. Breakdown the load into smaller parcels. Use correct lifting technique. Contact NNDC to ask for items to be removed. Stop immediately and seek medical attention if suffering any pain or discomfort.	
Chemicals	Chemical burns Poisoning	L/M	Do not approach or remove containers which you suspect may contain or have contained chemicals. Record details of container and seek medical attention if exposed to chemicals. Call Environment Agency.	
Steep slopes Poor ground condition	Slips and falls	L/M	Wear suitable footwear. Avoid working on steep slopes. Choose the safest route. Note weather conditions. Seek medical attention in the event of injury. Instruct other volunteers to stay away from the area.	
Hedges, fences, walls, ditches	Slips and falls	L/M	Avoid climbing walls, ditches and fences. Take care when climbing stiles especially in wet or	

			icy weather.	
Ponds, marshes, bogs	Drowning	M/H	Avoid lone working and always work in pairs. Avoid banks especially if they look to be unstable. Do not use power tools near water.	
Highway vehicles	Injury from passing vehicles Danger to other road users	M/H	Avoid working on the highway or in close proximity to the highway. If working near the highway wear high visibility clothing and erect warning signs. Be aware of passing traffic. Do not obstruct the highway.	
People – lone working	Aggression from difficult people	L	Do not work alone. Work in close proximity to other people. Withdraw rather than face conflict. Phone for assistance if required. Seek medical attention in the event of injury.	
Refuse, litter	Injury from sharp items	L	Only pick up general litter. Always wear gloves. Use litter picker & hoop. Do not collect medical waste (eg syringes). Phone NNDC to collect waste other than general litter. Seek medical attention in the event of injury.	
Grass cutting / strimming	Injury from flying stones	L/M	Operator and volunteers working nearby to wear suitable clothing, footwear and eye protection. Operator to be capable of operating the equipment. Equipment to be checked before use.	
Trees, shrubs	Injury from low hanging branches Danger from falling branches Trip hazard from roots.	L	Trees to be professionally inspected on an annual basis. Be aware of branches and roots. Watch out for hazards. See medical attention in the event of an injury.	
Irritants, dangerous plants	Stings & allergies	L	Beware of dangerous plants and possible reactions.	

			Wear gloves & protective clothing. Wash well after completing task. Seek medical attention in the event of any unusual or suspicious symptoms.	
Weather	Sunburn, heatstroke, hypothermia	L	Be aware of weather forecast. Wear suitable clothing and carry spares. Stop work and seek shelter if necessary. Wear sun screen and hat. Drink plenty of water. Do not work in extreme conditions.	
Collection of grass clippings, hedge cuttings etc	Cuts and stings	L	Wear protective gloves. Use correct lifting techniques.	

Note: All volunteers must be capable of carrying out the work involved.  
 Thoroughly wash hands after all work.  
 Volunteers should check tetanus vaccinations are up to date.  
 First aid kit should be available and volunteers know where it is.

Risk Assessment carried out on ..... by .....

Signed .....