

Aylburton Parish Council

Risk Assessment for Litter Picking

Adopted at the full council meeting on 11/02/2020; To be reviewed by end of February 2023

Litter-picking operatives should:

- have the correct Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – eg Thick gloves, hi-viz vest, sensible footwear, weather appropriate clothing etc.
- have the correct equipment – eg Litter grabbers, plastic bags, dog waste bags, brush, shovel etc and know how to use the equipment.
- consider all the risks and hazards in the work area, eg hazardous waste, broken glass, dog waste, vomit, needles, condoms and roads/cycle ways, thorny bushes, low branches, uneven ground, hidden bankings etc.
- know the work area and how to report incidents or hazardous or unidentified waste, where to get first aid, deposit bags of waste and dispose safely of sharp material eg broken glass.

The following table has been used to score the risks associated with the task.

Likelihood (a)		Severity (b)		Magnitude = a x b
Certain	5	Fatality	6	2 x 3 = 6
Probable	4	Serious Disablement	5	le LOW RISK
Even Chance	3	Sprain, Major Cuts/Bruises	4	High Risk = 21 to 30
Possible	2	Minor Cut/Strain	3	Medium Risk = 11 to 20
Unlikely	1	Minor Bruises/Grazes	2	Low Risk = 2 to 10

Hazard	Risk	Controls	Measures to Reduce Effect in the Event of an Accident	Score	Risk
Broken glass, sharp/rusty edges	Cuts and infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use litter grabbers to pick up sharp litter • Operatives should have up-to-date tetanus protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention where appropriate • Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor 	20	M

Needles	Cuts and infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave alone and report to FoDDC for removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention where appropriate 	5	L
Heavy/awkward to handle rubbish	Pulled muscles and strains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave the object in place and report it to FoDDC for removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	5	L
Batteries, asbestos and miscellaneous chemicals	Potentially harmful to skin/general health depending on condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not approach or remove any potentially hazardous waste, and instead report it to FoDDC for removal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event of unexpected contact with hazardous substances seek medical attention as soon as possible. 	20	M
Ground conditions	Sprains, muscle damage and broken bones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid dangerous areas and choose the safest possible route over difficult ground. • Wear suitable footwear. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. • Seek medical attention for any serious cuts, bruises or strains 	16	M
Highways vehicles, bicycles, plant and machinery	Collision with moving traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid close proximity to traffic where possible. • Stay off the highway wherever possible. • Be alert to the potential presence of agricultural machinery • Wear high visibility clothing if necessary. • Be aware of the vehicles around you during the litter pick. • Keep a look out. • Children should not work by a road-side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention in the event of injury. 	18	M
People, lone working	Physical or verbal assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of aggressive and difficult people. • Withdraw rather than face conflict. • Have mobile phone. • Stay off private property. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention following any assault/injury. 	5	L
Animals – domestic, wild and farm	Lymes Disease carried by animal ticks and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear appropriate clothing. • Beware of loose dogs. • Avoid contact with animals. Avoid contact with animal faeces wherever possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention as soon as possible after being bitten or scratched. 	5	L

	bites/scratches from animals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash hands immediately after contact with faeces. • Avoid touching eyes or mouth. 		
Waterside diseases	Weil's Disease from rat's urine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not touch dead animals. • Cover any cuts or sores with a waterproof plaster before carrying out a litter pick. • Avoid getting hands wet in rivers, ponds or canals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention where appropriate. • Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor 	5	L
Dog faeces	Toxocara canis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always wear gloves and use a dog waste bag when removing dog faeces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughly wash your hands. • Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. • Seek medical attention where appropriate. 	5	L
Weather, e.g. thunderstorms	Various health issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cease work in inappropriate conditions. • Avoid working in extreme conditions. • Dress for conditions & carry additional clothing. • In the event of extreme weather conditions the work should be postponed or abandoned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention where appropriate. 	15	M
Electric fences	Electrocution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always assume electric fences are live. • Never touch electric fences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention where appropriate. 	12	M
Hedges, fences, walls, ditches	Injuries resulting from falls and stumbles, e.g. cuts, bruises, sprains, strains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take care when climbing stiles particularly in wet weather. • Avoid climbing walls, ditches and fences. • Stay within the agreed areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid dangerous areas and choose the safest possible route over difficult ground. • Wear suitable footwear. • Do not rush. 	3	L
Tools, equipment	Cuts, bruises, lacerations, strains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know how to use equipment • Allow sufficient working area for the correct and safe use of the tool. • Use appropriate protection • Have access to a first aid kit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention in the event of an injury 	3	L

Trees, shrubs	Trips, cuts and eye pokes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be alert to the risks and keep a look out for hazards. • Be aware of low hanging branches and exposed tree and shrub roots. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention in the event of an injury 	18	M
Irritants, dangerous plants	Poisoning, skin irritations or allergic reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear gloves • Beware of dangerous plants and possible adverse reactions. • Wash thoroughly on completion of such operations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek medical attention for unusual or suspicious symptoms after contact with vegetation. 	3	L

On completion of the litter pick, operatives should

- wash their hands thoroughly as soon as possible after the litter pick and before taking any food or drink.
- ensure any wounds are redressed after cleaning and disinfecting if there has been any contact with water.
- carry out a personal inspection for cuts etc.
- report any hazardous items to the Council.
- arrange for collection/disposal of waste

Signed: (Clerk)

Print Name: Date:.....

Signed: (Street-cleansing Contractor):

Print Name:..... Date: