

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

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Risk assessment for a Litter Controller

Before starting your duties ensure:

- Have the correct PPE – e.g. suitable gloves, hi-visibility vest, sensible footwear, weather appropriate clothing etc.
- Have the correct equipment – e.g. litter picker, plastic bags, brush, shovel etc.
- Consider all the risks and hazards in the work area, e.g. hazardous waste, broken glass, dog waste, vomit, needles, condoms, low branches, uneven ground etc.
- Know your work area and how to; report incidents or hazardous or unidentified waste, where to get first aid, deposit bags of waste and mark bags containing sharp material e.g. broken glass.

Risk Assessment Table

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROLS	MEASURE TO REDUCE EFFECT IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT	RISK LEVEL
Highways, vehicles, bicycles, plant and machinery	Collision with moving traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At all times be mindful of your environment and the traffic conditions, pedestrian and vehicular, in which you are working.• Work facing traffic.• Avoid close proximity to traffic if possible.• Be alert to the potential presence of agricultural machinery.• Wear hi-visibility clothing of the relevant standard if on or near the highway.	Seek medical attention in the event of an injury.	H

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROLS	MEASURE TO REDUCE EFFECT IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT	RISK LEVEL
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The highway includes footpaths and verges. • Be aware of the vehicles around you during the litter pick. • Keep a look out. 		
Needles	Cuts and infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispose of in a sharps container using a litter grabber or report to the Council for removal. 	Seek medical attention where appropriate.	H
Broken glass, sharp/rusty edges	Cuts and infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable gloves to be worn at all times. • Use litter grabbers to pick up sharp litter. • Broken glass or other sharp objects should be swept onto a shovel or picked up with a scoop or litter picker. 	Seek medical attention where appropriate. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor.	M
Heavy/awkward to handle rubbish	Pulled muscles and strains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the weight of any load before handling. Extreme care to be taken, use good lifting practices. • If too heavy to handle leave the object in place and report it to your line manager for removal by the Council. • Do not leave sacks of litter or sweepings where they will be a danger. 	Stop immediately if suffering any pain or discomfort. Seek medical attention if the ill effects persist.	M
Batteries, asbestos and miscellaneous chemicals	Potentially dangerous depending on condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not approach or remove any potentially hazardous waste. • Report to your line manager. 	Seek medical attention if exposed to pesticides, insecticides or other chemicals – record any label details.	M

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROLS	MEASURE TO REDUCE EFFECT IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT	RISK LEVEL
Ground conditions	Sprains, muscle damage & broken bones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid dangerous areas and choose the safest possible route over difficult ground. 	Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. Seek medical attention for any serious cuts, bruises or strains.	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 access to a mobile phone. 	Seek medical attention following any assault/injury.	M
Animals – domestic, and wild	Lymes disease carried by animal ticks and bites/scratches from animals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear appropriate clothing. • Beware of loose dogs. • Avoid contact with animals. • Avoid contact with animal faeces. 	Seek medical attention as soon as possible after being bitten or scratched. Wash hands immediately after contact with faeces. Avoid touching eyes or mouth.	M
Waterborne 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 or ponds 	Seek medical attention where appropriate. Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor.	M

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROLS	MEASURE TO REDUCE EFFECT IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT	RISK LEVEL
Dog faeces	Toxicara canis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not touch dog faeces. • Always wear gloves and use a shovel when removing dog faeces. 	<p>Thoroughly wash your hands.</p> <p>Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor.</p> <p>Seek medical attention where appropriate.</p>	M
Adverse weather e.g. thunder storms	Various health issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cease work in inappropriate conditions. • Avoid working in extreme conditions. • Dress for conditions and carry additional clothing. 	Seek medical attention where appropriate.	L
Tools, equipment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow sufficient working area for the correct and safe use of the tool. • Use appropriate protection. 	Obtain medical attention in the event of an injury.	L
Trees, Shrubs	Trips, cuts and eye injuries.	<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. 	Obtain medical attention in the event of an injury.	L
Irritants, dangerous plants	Poisoning, skin irritations or allergic reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear gloves provided. • Beware of dangerous plants and possible adverse reactions. • Wash thoroughly on completion of such operations. 	Seek medical attention for unusual or suspicious symptoms after contact with the vegetation.	L

Adopted at the Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council meeting held on the 12th November 2025.