



## Parish Council Litter Picking Risk Assessment

<b>Date: 09.07.2024</b>	<b>Assessed by: Assistant Clerk</b>	<b>Checked/Validated by: The Clerk</b>	<b>Location: Across The Parish Of Yalding</b>	<b>Review date: Annual Parish Council Meeting annually</b>
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High-vis Jackets to be worn at all times

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Activity	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Existing measures to control risk	Risk rating	Result
Litter Picking	Manual Handling - general from picking up litter, carrying bags, moving bins, moving large objects, reaching, bending, or twisting	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers are to only collect waste that is within their personal capability to handle.</li> <li>• Use the litter picker, to avoid unnecessary bending.</li> <li>• If lifting items then correct technique should be used (using the legs and not the back).</li> <li>• Large or bulky items should be left for trained operatives to collect or lifted as part of a team.</li> <li>• Take regular breaks to prevent fatigue because if you are tired you are more prone to injuring yourself.</li> <li>• Assess items for hazards before you move them (e.g. sharp edges, unknown substance)</li> <li>• Wear appropriate footwear that has suitable tread and ankle support, so that you are less likely to slip whilst carrying out the activity.</li> <li>• Only collect litter that can be put into bags and carried. Do not overfill the bags</li> </ul>	Medium	A
Litter Picking continued	Use of Litter Picker	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers should not handle the claw end of the litter picker with bare hands.</li> </ul>	Low	A

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Activity	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Existing measures to control risk	Risk rating	Result
Litter Picking continued	Natural Hazards including pollen, dangerous plants, cuts from thorns, Wasp & Bee stings.	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take notice of any signage re dangerous plants</li> <li>• Avoid area with nettles and thorns</li> <li>• Be on the lookout for wasp and bee's nests</li> <li>• Suitable clothing be worn, wear gloves, no bare skin exposed.</li> <li>• Be aware of personal hygiene and wash hands before eating, drinking, smoking, or going to the toilet.</li> <li>• Ensure you have a phone to call for help if required.</li> </ul>	Low	A
Litter Picking continued	Physical Hazards: Ground surfaces - uneven or slippery Steep banks Shrubs, brambles, tree branches etc. Weather: sun and hot temperatures; wet and cold temperatures Deep or fast flowing water	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activity should not be carried out in areas of high risk.</li> <li>• Wear sturdy/sensible footwear with adequate grip.</li> <li>• No open toed footwear.</li> <li>• Be aware of surfaces walked on.</li> <li>• Volunteers should make themselves aware of uneven ground, missing manhole covers, kerbs and hidden hazards.</li> <li>• Suitable and sensible clothing should be worn for the weather conditions i.e. sun hat and sun cream in hot weather, waterproof warm clothing in cold weather.</li> <li>• Take regular breaks out of the sun.</li> <li>• Water should be carried and drunk regularly.</li> <li>• Do not litter pick in extreme weather.</li> <li>• Ensure you have a phone to call for help if required.</li> </ul>	Medium	A

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Activity	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Existing measures to control risk	Risk rating	Result
Litter Picking continued	Biological Hazards: dirty water in ditches, faeces, vomit, used condoms, hypodermic syringes/drug paraphernalia	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitable clothing be worn, wear gloves, no bare skin exposed.</li> <li>• Use a litter picking stick whenever possible, do not use hands to pick up hazardous waste.</li> <li>• All cuts/grazes should be covered with surgical tape or waterproof plaster before starting the activity.</li> <li>• Do not to pick up unidentified and potentially hazardous waste or handle any biohazard. Report these to The Clerk immediately.</li> <li>• Be aware of personal hygiene and wash hands before eating, drinking, smoking, or going to the toilet.</li> <li>• Volunteers must not collect needles or drug paraphernalia. If found, the location should be noted and reported to The Clerk immediately.</li> <li>• If a needle stick injury is received then volunteers are to seek immediate medical treatment. Wound should be encouraged to bleed. The incident should be reported to The Clerk.</li> <li>• Ensure you have a phone to call for help if required.</li> </ul>	Medium	A
Litter Picking continued	Asbestos	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you suspect the waste is asbestos do not touch it. Report these to The Clerk immediately.</li> </ul>	High	A

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Activity	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Existing measures to control risk	Risk rating	Result
Litter Picking continued	Sharp objects: Glass, syringes, nails etc.	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitable clothing and sturdy footwear be worn, wear gloves, no bare skin exposed.</li> <li>• Use a litter picking stick whenever possible, do not use hands to pick up hazardous waste.</li> <li>• Do not pick up any sharp objects. Report these to The Clerk immediately.</li> <li>• Ensure you have a phone to call for help if required</li> </ul>	Medium	A
Litter Picking continued	Waste/litter which could be contaminated by a hazardous substance	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any unidentified cans and canisters, oil drums, poisons, insecticides, clinical wastes, hazardous substances, dead animals, broken glass, condoms, syringes, needles, or sharp objects should not be handled. Report to Clerk immediately.</li> <li>• Ensure you have a phone to call for help if required.</li> </ul>	Low	A
Litter Picking continued	Lone Working	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is preferable to litter pick in pairs.</li> <li>• If working alone ensure you inform someone of your whereabouts and what time you expect to be back</li> </ul>	Medium	A
Litter Picking continued	Dead/injured animals	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not pick up any dead/injured animals. Report these to The Clerk immediately.</li> </ul>	L	A

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Activity	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Existing measures to control risk	Risk rating	Result
Litter Picking continued	Verbal / Physical Abuse	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers to leave the area if a situation arise</li> <li>• Any incidents to be reported to The Clerk</li> <li>• If volunteers are at risk of immediate physical assault call '999'</li> </ul>	Low	A
Litter Picking continued	Young Persons	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yalding Parish Council Volunteers are fully insured between the ages of 16-75 years and partially insured between the ages of 75-85 years, but they be physically fit and able to carry out the work expected of them in order for them to be covered by The Councils insurance Policy.</li> <li>• Young person's 16 to 18 should be closely supervised at all times.</li> <li>• A detailed briefing should be given to all young persons.</li> <li>• Anyone under the age of 16 will require an adult to be present and will require parental permission.</li> </ul>	Low	A
Litter Picking continued	Group litter picking	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you are organising a group litter pick, ensure you take specific time to explain procedures and take particular care to describe and point out potential hazards as laid out in this risk assessment to other group members and especially young persons.</li> <li>• Ensure there is adequate supervision.</li> </ul>	Low	A

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Activity	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	Existing measures to control risk	Risk rating	Result
Working on or near to the Carriageway	Vehicle movements, cyclists, horses, pedestrians.	Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter picking should be avoided on the carriageway, stick to verges and footways.</li> <li>• All work to be carried out from the footway or verge with a sideways safety zone of at least 50cm.</li> <li>• Volunteers are only supported to litter pick roads with a maximum speed limit of 30MPH but must be aware that road users may travel in excess of the limit.</li> <li>• Volunteers to follow the highway and green cross code when crossing a road and should use designated crossing points wherever possible.</li> <li>• Volunteer to be aware that HGVs take up more room than other vehicles.</li> <li>• Wear high visibility clothing, (provided by Yalding Parish Council) in order to be seen easily.</li> <li>• Do not litter pick at dusk and later.</li> </ul>	Medium	A

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