

BIGGLESWADE COMMUNITY GARDEN RISK ASSESSMENT FOR GROUP ACTIVITIES

Name and Nature of Activity – Group Gardening Sessions

Date: **16/11/2022 Reviewed 24/04/24**

Location: Biggleswade Community Garden- Chestnut Avenue

Individuals Involved (including numbers):

All volunteers and members, the management committee, and anyone visiting the community garden.

People at Risk: members, Volunteers, the management committee, and anyone visiting or using the or tending the community garden.

Medical Assistance:
1st Aid Kit on site
Emergency Services (call 999)

Risk Evaluation

<i>Potential Hazards</i>	<i>Potential Risks</i>	<i>Initial Rating</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>Residual Risk</i>
Uneven surfaces and pathways	Slips, trips and falls.	4 (medium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We ensure pathways are clear of any obstacles e.g. hose pipe, tools. If in use they are located at the edge of the pathways. • Any large stones or bricks are removed on a regular basis. • Paths are regularly maintained and cleared of obstructions. • All volunteers working on Des Ball's bulb bank which is particularly sloped do so at their own risk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued maintenance of pathways and grassed areas • Continued awareness of keeping pathways clear of clutter and uneven surfaces • Ensure awareness is raised of specific problematic areas e.g bulb bank. 	2 (low)
Use of tools	Injuries, trips and falls, minor cuts and bruises	4 (medium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We only allow individuals to use tools they are comfortable with. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued regular maintenance of own tools. • Any faulty tools will be disposed of. 	2 (low)

Manual handling and lifting	Injury, strains and sprains	4 (Medium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers to be advised of good manual handling techniques. • Volunteers will be made aware of the risks and will only lift what they feel comfortable with. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each person can lift or handle heavy objects within their own limits. 	2 (low)
Plants	Ingestion, allergic reaction, flicking branches, thorns and stings, eye	2 (low)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage gloves to be worn and hands washed after gardening. • No edible plants are at Chestnut Avenue which reduces the risk of accidental ingestion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise volunteers when starting their first gardening session that all plants are ornamental only. 	1 (low)
Soil and unintended animal manures from cats, dogs and foxes	Tetanus, E-coli, Leptospirosis (Weil's disease), toxoplasmosis, toxocarasis, bioaerosols, skin irritation, soil blowing into eyes	2 (low)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the garden during sessions and remove any mess wearing gloves and disposing in an outdoor waste bin. • Wash hands after removal of waste. • Gloves to be worn when working with soil. • Avoid working with soil in dry and windy conditions where soil can become airborne. • Hands are washed/ sanitised after gardening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued checks and raised awareness for volunteers 	1 (low)
Bees, wasps and insects	Stings, bites	2 (low)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise volunteers to bring their bite/sting relief cream for the individual to administer. • Dispose of any found nests when this poses a risk to others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise volunteers more at risk to bring their own bite relief cream and epi-pens if necessary. 	1 (low)


Illness, accidents	Cuts, bruises, seizures, head injuries etc.	4 (medium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 1 member on site with access to 1st aid kit. Ideally 1st Aid Trained • Seek medical attention when necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renew 1st Aid qualifications when they expire. • Increased knowledge for both volunteers and members in the procedure for an accident or emergency. 	2 (low)
Weather	Sunburn, sunstroke, dehydration, hypothermia, slips and falls	2 (low)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise the use of sun cream on sunny days. • All volunteers know their own limits and will not volunteer if weather is too cold or too hot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to do what we are doing. • Cancel gardening sessions in cases of extreme weather or in cases of icy conditions. 	1 (low)

Attendees shall only undertake activities they feel comfortable performing and should stop, seek assistance and/or go home if they feel unsafe at any time.

Assessment Prepared by		
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Assessment Approved by		
Name.....Rhiannon Barrow.....	Signature:.....R.Barrow.....	Date:.....24/04/24.....

Risk Evaluation Matrix



LIKELIHOOD 	1	2	3
1	LOW - 1 -	LOW - 2 -	MEDIUM - 3 -
2	LOW - 2 -	MEDIUM - 4 -	HIGH - 6 -
3	MEDIUM - 3 -	HIGH - 6 -	HIGH - 9 -