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Fulford Parish Council Allotments Risk Assessment –
Hilderstone & Blythe Bridge Sites

Hazard and risk	People at Risk	Fulford Parish Council Controls	Additional
Slips, trips and falls on uneven ground	Tenants, visitors, children, staff and contractors	• Tenants keep paths and plot entrances reasonably clear. Weeds, hoses, tools and materials should not obstruct communal paths. • Regular inspection of communal paths. Tenants to remove trip hazards from their plots. Repair significant defects where identified.	
Uneven/slippery paths, particularly in wet or icy weather	Tenants, visitors, children, staff and contractors	• Suitable footwear advised. Tenants made aware of weather-related hazards • Inspect paths periodically and arrange remedial work where reasonably practicable.	

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Use of hand tools such as spades, forks, hoes and secateurs	Tenants, visitors, children, staff and contractors	• Tenants responsible for using suitable tools safely and keeping tools in good condition. Tools should be stored safely when not in use. • Remind tenants of safe tool use. Defective tools should not be used.	
Cuts from sharp tools	Tenants, visitors	• Sharp tools to be handled carefully and stored safely. Children should not have unsupervised access to tool	

Strains, sprains and back injuries from lifting	Tenants, volunteers	• Tenants encouraged to avoid lifting excessive loads and use suitable lifting techniques. • Encourage use of wheelbarrows/trolleys and assistance for heavy or awkward items.	
Manual handling of compost, soil, manure and bags	Tenants	• Avoid overloading bags. Use mechanical assistance where possible.	

		• Provide guidance on safe lifting and carrying.	
Working at height, including pruning trees or structures	Tenants	• Work at height should be avoided Tenants • should not undertake high-risk tree work themselves. Professional assistance should be considered for dangerous or high trees.	
Struck by falling branches	Tenants, visitors	• Trees and large vegetation to be monitored. • Arrange inspection of significant trees where necessary and remove dangerous branches. Keep people away from unsafe areas.	
Use of powered garden equipment	Tenants	• Only competent adults to operate equipment. Manufacturer's instructions to be followed. Appropriate PPE to be worn. • Tenants to ensure equipment is maintained and safely stored off site • Tenants operate equipment at own risk	

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Lawnmowers/strimmers	Tenants, visitors, children, staff and contractors	• Operators to keep others away from machinery while operating. Eye/foot protection recommended as appropriate. • Remind tenants that machinery must never be left running unattended. • Contractors own Risk Assessments • Tenants use own equipment at own risk	
Petrol and other flammable materials	Tenants, visitors, children, staff and contractors	• Not allowed to be stored on site. Keep away from ignition sources. Follow fire- • safety requirements	
Bonfires and burning garden waste	Tenants, visitors, children, staff and contractors	• Bonfires only where permitted by allotment rules. Fires to be supervised and fully extinguished.	

		• Clear rules on permitted burning, weather conditions, location and extinguishing fires. No burning of plastics, rubber or hazardous materials is not allowed.	
Smoke from bonfires	Tenants, neighbours, road users	• Fires should not be lit where smoke could cause danger or significant nuisance. • Suspend burning during unsuitable weather or when smoke may affect roads/neighbours	

Fire spreading to sheds/vegetation	Tenants, visitors	• Bonfires kept away from sheds, fences, buildings, dry vegetation and combustible materials. • Site rules to specify safe fire locations and minimum clearance	
Storage of chemicals, fertilisers and pesticides	Tenants, children, visitors, wildlife	• No chemical to be used on site or stored on site	

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Animal and insect bites/stings	Tenants, children, visitors	• Tenants advised to take care around wasps, bees, rodents and other animals. • Report significant infestations or dangerous nests to the Parish Council	
Contaminated water / water butts	Tenants, children	• Water containers kept covered where practicable. Do not drink allotment water unless confirmed potable.	
Sheds, greenhouses and structures	Tenants, visitors	• Structures maintained by individual tenants must be kept in safe condition. • Unsafe structures to be repaired, secured or removed.	
Damaged fencing/gates	Tenants, visitors	• Boundary fencing and gates to be inspected periodically. • Repair damaged fencing/gates as soon as reasonably practicable.	
Unauthorised access/vandalism	Tenants, visitors	• Secure boundary and gates where provided. Tenants encouraged to report damage or suspicious activity	

		• Maintain secure gates	

Children on allotment site	Children, parents/carer	• Children must be supervised by a responsible adult. Dangerous tools, chemicals and machinery must be secured.	
Dogs on site	Tenants, visitors	• Dogs should be kept under control and must not cause nuisance or contamination of other plots. •	
Extreme heat/sun exposure	Tenants, volunteers	• Avoid prolonged work during the hottest part of the day. Drink water and use sun protection. • Tenants advised to stop work if experiencing symptoms of heat illness.	
Cold, ice, snow and severe weather	Tenants, volunteers	• Tenants advised to avoid visiting during dangerous weather conditions. •	

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Lone working	Tenants	• Tenants should inform someone of their whereabouts when undertaking potentially hazardous work. • Tenants should avoid high-risk activities when alone.	
Emergency vehicle access	Tenants, emergency services	• Main access routes kept clear. Tenants must not obstruct access with vehicles, materials or structures. • Regularly check emergency access routes.	
Vehicle movement/parking	Tenants, visitors	• Vehicles kept to designated areas where possible. Drivers to proceed slowly and with consideration for pedestrians. •	
Waste, rubbish and discarded materials	Tenants, visitors	• Tenants responsible for keeping plots tidy and disposing of waste appropriately. • Regular site inspections.	

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Glass, metal, wire or other sharp waste	Tenants, visitors	• Sharp waste must not be left exposed. • Remove hazardous waste promptly and require tenants to dispose	
Asbestos-containing materials or suspected asbestos	Tenants, visitors	• Do not disturb, cut, drill or remove suspected asbestos-containing materials. • Tenants to report to Parish Council	
Fly-tipping or hazardous waste	Tenants, visitors	• Report suspected hazardous waste to the Parish Council. Do not handle unknown substances.	
Pests and vermin	Tenants, visitors	• Good housekeeping and secure food/compost storage.	
Glass in greenhouses	Tenants, visitors	• Not allowed on site	
Emergency incident/fire	Tenants, visitors	• Emergency services to be contacted where necessary. Access routes kept clear	
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