

Long Preston Parish Council

Playing Field Risk Assessment February 2023

Activity	Potential Hazards	Risks	Mitigation	Risk Level	Additional Measures
Driving Council owned lawn mower within the boundary of the Playing Field.	Collision with the public, pavilion, tennis court fencing or trees as a result of equipment malfunction, driver/operative error or inappropriate use.	Potentially serious injury to both the operative and the public.	Ensure that all equipment is serviced according to the manufacturers schedule and that staff receive appropriate, documented training. Speed within the boundaries of the playing field restricted to 15 mph.	Low	Warning signs alerting the public to activity on the playing field.
Operating Council owned equipment including lawn mower and strimmer within the boundary of the Playing Field.	Risk of injury to operatives through malfunction of equipment or inappropriate use.	Malfunction or inappropriate use of the equipment exposes both the operative and the public to the risk of serious injury.	Operatives must ensure that the equipment to be used is functioning correctly and must not be used if a fault is identified. Operatives must also be trained in the use of the equipment and given the necessary protective equipment.	Low	Warning signs alerting the public to activity on the playing field.
Application of weed killer/pesticides	Skin or eye contact and inhalation or ingestion may lead to serious reactions in both humans and animals.	Risk of adverse reaction following contact with the weed killer, to both humans and animals.	The use of weedkiller should be carefully considered. Its application should be restricted. Warning notices should be posted advising the public that spraying is in progress.	Low	Application of such substances should only be made by persons holding a spray certificate.

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Picnic Benches	Seats are subject to weathering and vandalism making them unfit for purpose.	Minor injuries may result from a deterioration of the surface, but more serious injury may occur as a result of a failure of the structure.	Regular inspection of the structure and the damage rectified. Picnic benches should be taken out of use until issues have been sorted.	Low	
Dog Waste	Children becoming contaminated with dog faeces.	Infection such as Campylobacter, Salmonella, E.coli and Toxocariasis.	Dogs are prohibited from entering the playing field. Notices posted on gate to this effect.	Medium	
Hazardous waste	Public coming into contact with hazardous waste such as broken glass, needles and discarded drugs.	Injury to members of the public, contractors and employees.	Area to be regularly inspected and any waste to be disposed of accordingly.	Low	In the case of discarded needles, syringes and/or drugs LPPC will inform the police.

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Trip or injury on all areas	Visitors may be injured if they trip over objects.	Injury to members of the public, contractors and employees.	Regular inspections will be carried out over the whole area of the playfield and trip hazards when identified will either be removed or highlighted as needing repairing.	Low	
Boundary fences and stone walls.	Wooden/metal fences and stone walls are subject to weather deterioration and damage by visitors/unwanted visits by livestock.	Injury to members of the public, contractors and employees.	To be regularly inspected and any remedial action undertaken to ensure these are in a sound condition.	Low	
Children's play area ground surface	Visitors may be injured by damage to the ground area around the play equipment.	Injury to members of the public, contractors and employees.	Area regularly inspected by volunteers and also an annual inspection to be carried out by ROSPA approved contractor. Grass around equipment to be regularly cut during the growing season.	Low	Any remedial work highlighted will be actioned by Parish Council.
Children's play area equipment	Visitors may be injured by damaged/worn play equipment.	Injury to members of the public, contractors and employees.	Equipment regularly inspected for damage and wear. Also annual inspection to be carried out by ROSPA approved contractor. Parents should be encouraged to supervise their children to ensure safe play.	Low	Any remedial work highlighted will be actioned by Parish Council. Signs in place to state that young children should be supervised.

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Tennis and Basketball court – football/rugby posts	Deterioration of ground surface, basketball hoops, tennis nets and posts. Deterioration of football/rugby posts.	Injury to members of the public, contractors and employees.	Equipment regularly inspected for damage and wear and replaced as necessary.	Low	Any remedial work highlighted will be actioned by Parish Council and/or Playing Fields Association.
Pavilion	Deterioration of wooden cladding and roof.	Injury to members of the public, contractors and employees.	To be regularly inspected for damage especially after severe weather.	Low	
Car Parking Area	Car owners park their cars at their own risk.	Damage to cars from other vehicles and users of the Play Area.	Signs in place to warn car owners park at their own risk.	Low	
Harmful Plants	There are many plants such as nettles that can cause skin irritation.	Possible skin irritation to members of the public, contractors and employees.	All areas of the Playing Fields to be regularly inspected and where possible weeds of this nature will be sprayed/cut to reduce possible incidents.	Low	