

COLLINGHAM *Parish Council*

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR VOLUNTEER LITTER PICKERS

Adopted 4 May 2021

Next Review: May 2022

Prior to work commencement by volunteers -

1. **EXAMINE AREA TO BE LITTER PICKED – DO NOT COMENCE WORK IF DANGER IDENTIFIED –some areas may be unsuitable for litter picking by volunteers**
2. You must have personal protective equipment (PPE) – sturdy shoes/wellingtons, gloves, hi-vis vests, goggles, sun protection, drink and hat etc.
3. You must have appropriate tools and equipment in good condition, e.g. litter grab and plastic bags. If a container for needles is needed contact Parish Clerks or Parish Councillors.
4. Please consider risks and hazards in work areas, e.g. broken glass, vomit, condoms, thorny shrubs, etc. Refer any concerns to Parish Clerks or Parish Councillors.
5. Ensure your familiarity with methods of safe working. Keep clear of moving vehicles and be aware of environmental hazards such as barbed wire, potholes, and water courses. Do not litter pick outside 30 mph zone if lone working. Litter picking outside of the 30mph zone may only be undertaken if working as part of a team, with one person acting as a lookout. The team shall always step off the road and onto the verge when traffic is approaching.

Hazards:

1. Handling of sharp items of litter e.g. broken glass, cans etc. Use tongs/litter pickers.
2. Handling faeces, vomit, condoms, dead animals etc with biohazard risks. Use shovel or report to Parish Clerk or Parish Councillors to contact Newark & Sherwood District Council. (NSDC)
3. Contact with thorns, spines, etc. in shrubbery.
4. Encounters with wasps and other insects, rodents and associated food wastes.
5. Slips and trips from uneven and slippery surfaces and slopes.
6. Manual handling of litterbins sacks etc. Do not overfill sacks.
7. Exposure to weather conditions.

Harm:

1. Minor cuts to severe lacerations and fractures.
2. Infections, stings and/or bites, eye injuries, hypothermia, heatstroke, and sunburn or muscle strain.

Persons at risk:

1. Volunteers
2. Other people in the vicinity of the work area, e.g. passers-by.

Control Measures:

1. Always wear appropriate protective clothing and use PPE.
2. Take extra care on uneven ground and in shrubberies etc.
3. Always adhere to procedure for condoms, hypodermic needles/syringes. Sharps boxes for needles and other sharp hazards will be provided to be taken to NSDC.
4. Always seek attention for all cuts etc. however minor, to minimise risks of infection.

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5. If in doubt regarding safety contact a Parish Councillor or NSDC 01636 751539.
6. Always carry a mobile phone in case of emergency

On completion:

1. Inspect area covered to see if any hazardous material still present; if so remove or report to Parish Council or NSDC.
2. Take waste to dustbin behind the Jubilee Room, Swinderby Road, preferably bagged ready for collection and use the key supplied to you
3. Wash hands and arms thoroughly. Carry out personal inspection for cuts etc.