



Dormington and Mordiford Group Parish Council



RISK ASSESSMENT		Burial Ground & Closed Churchyard					
LOCATION		Mordiford					
Summary of activity Assessment of hazards associated with activities at the Burial Ground and Closed Churchyard: • Visiting of graves • Funerals • Maintenance • Inspection							
HAZARD	POTENTIAL HARM	PERSON(S) AT RISK	PRECAUTIONS & CONTROL MEASURES	LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURRENCE	HAZARD SEVERITY	RISK FACTOR	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
Headstones & Memorials	1) Movement of memorials which may fall over onto a person 2) Tripping on loose kerb stones	1) Visitors to the burial ground and churchyard 2) Contractors 3) Employees and representatives of the Parish Council	1) Regular visual inspection and annual hand test. 2) Training – FBCA advice and inspection	1	4	4	Parish Council
Boundary Wall - Churchyard	Collapse of wall onto person	1) Visitors to the burial ground and churchyard 2) Contractors 3) Employees and representatives of the Parish Council	Annual inspection	1	4	4	Church
Overhanging trees	Hit by low or falling branches	1) Visitors to the burial ground and churchyard 2) Contractors 3) Employees and representatives of the Parish Council	1) Arranged visits by DC Gardening to keep the trees, hedges and grass maintained	2	3	6	Parish Council / Contractor

HAZARD	POTENTIAL HARM	PERSON(S) AT RISK	PRECAUTIONS & CONTROL MEASURES	LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURRENCE	HAZARD SEVERITY	RISK FACTOR	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
Pathways and open ground – potholes, obstructions, drains, mole hills, uneven ground	Slip, trips and falls	1) Visitors to the burial ground and churchyard 2) Contractors 3) Employees and representatives of the Parish Council	1) Arranged visits by DC Gardening to keep the trees, hedges and grass maintained 2) Drain kept clear to make its presence obvious	3	3	9	Parish Council
Rubbish - waste	Disease or cuts	1) Visitors to the burial ground and churchyard 2) Contractors 3) Employees and representatives of the Parish Council	1) Arranged visits by DC Gardening to keep the trees, hedges and grass maintained. Rubbish is also collected on these visits.	2	2	4	Parish Council/ Contractors
Memorials blown round the Burial Ground	Slips. Trips and Falls	1) Visitors to the burial ground and churchyard 2) Contractors 3) Employees and representatives of the Parish Council	1) Arranged visits by DC Gardening to keep the trees, hedges and grass maintained. Rubbish is also collected on these visits. 2) When visiting the burial ground, Clerk to have a general tidy up of flowers and other memorials blown around the site.	5	1	5	Parish Council / Grave owners
Grass sloped path up to the Burial Ground	Slips, trips and falls	1) Visitors to the burial ground and churchyard 2) Contractors 3) Employees and representatives of the Parish Council	1) Arranged visits by DC Gardening to keep the trees, hedges and grass maintained. 2) Diggers to be banned from being used on site unless boards used to protect the grass when travelling up the slope.	3	3	9	Parish Council / Contractors
Grave digging	1) Slips, trips and falls 2) Damage to other graves	1) Visitors to the burial ground and churchyard 2) Contractors 3) Employees and representatives of the Parish Council 4) Funeral attendees eg, grave digger, funeral director, members of the church,	1) Grave digger appointed by the funeral director, must have their own Risk Assessment and insurance. 2) Care should be taken to not damage or disturb other graves when grave being dug. 3) Once dug, the grave should be prepared for the coffin to be lowered into the hole. Planks should be in place to support the Pallbearers at	1	3	3	Grave Digger / Funeral Director/ Parish Council

		Pallbearers, and family.	the graves edge and trip hazards identified. 4) If the grave is dug well before the funeral, the hole should be covered to ensure no one can fall in. 5) Pallbearers/funeral directors should be trained in correctly lowering a coffin into the grave.				
The Gate – coffin transfer	1) Trips and falls. 2) Dropping the coffin. 3) Hit by shutting gates	1) Funeral director & pallbearers, funeral guests and visitors to the Burial Ground. 2) Employees and representatives of the Parish Council 3) Members of the Church	1) Both gates should be opened to ease coffin transfer on a trolley up to the burial ground. 2) Care must be taken to not trip over the gate stop between the two gates. 3) Gates should be secured so as to not swing shut 4) Clerk to advise Pallbearers of hazard.	3	3	9	Parish Council

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR: Dormington and Mordiford Group Parish Council	ASSESSMENT UNDERTAKEN BY: NAME: Emma Donovan DATE: 02/05/25	LAST UPDATED ON: DATE: DATE: DATE:
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RISK MATRIX				Hazard Severity				
				1	2	3	4	5
				Low	Slight	Moderate	High	Severe
Doing this activity every day:				Minor injury not requiring First Aid	Moderate injury resulting in First Aid	Injury or disease resulting in >7 days off work	Death or major injury to one individual	Multiple death
Likelihood of occurrence	1	Unlikely	Injury may occur less than once in a lifetime	1	2	3	4	5
	2	Possible	Injury may occur less than once a year	2	4	6	8	10
	3	Occasional	Injury may occur two-three times per year	3	6	9	12	15
	4	Likely	Injury will occur more than three times per year	4	8	12	16	20
	5	Very likely	Injury is probably going to occur	5	10	15	20	25

	If control measures are followed as described, risk factor is low enough to continue
	Hazard carries a moderate level of risk. Attempt to eliminate or isolate hazard; if this can't be done, decide whether task is essential and who is competent to ensure it is carried out safely. Additional control measures may be necessary
	Hazard is very high risk. Unless it can be isolated/eliminated, do not carry out task. Find alternative solution.