

Litter Pick 2024 – 22/23 March 2024

Summary

It has been suggested that the Parish Council supports the Buckinghamshire Council/Keep Britain Tidy 'Great British Spring Clean'. This year, the event is taking place between Friday 17 March and Sunday 2 April. **It has been suggested that we hold a litter pick in Great Hampden over the weekend of 23/24 March.**

A 'litter pick' was held in 2023 and after the event Buckinghamshire Council commented, "*We also greatly discourage litter picking on fast roads and ask that you please leave this to our streets team, who will close the road to pick the litter safely.*"

Accordingly, a 'risk assessment' has been prepared and is attached to this briefing note for Councillors to consider. If the Council agrees to take part in this exercise an interactive excel version of the risk assessment will be placed on our website so individual attendees can assess their own level of risk and decide whether to take part, based on their individual assessment of risk.

Buckinghamshire Council would prefer 'picks' not to take place on roads with a speed limit greater than 30mph. That is a bit limiting in Great Hampden, so the suggestion is that the picking area is limited to roads with a speed limit of 40mph (or when the layout of the road naturally limits vehicle speeds to within that range). This is articulated in the risk assessment, at item 7.1.

Next Steps

- 1) A Councillor to take the lead on the project
- 2) The organiser of last years litter pick requested warning signs for this year – two of these are being ordered - <https://www.safetysignwarehouse.co.uk/product/slow-down-litter-picking-cone-sign-cns119/>
- 3) Register the litter pick with Keep Britain Tidy - <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean>
- 4) Email the village via the email list, marketing the litter pick
- 5) Order supplies of litter bags and picking equipment from <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/street-cleaning/organise-a-community-litter-pick-information/>

- 6) Arrange for a Councillor to pick up the above supplies
- 7) Arrange waste bag pick up points and collection dates
- 8) Arrange for a Councillor to return the litter picking equipment.

Great and Little Hampden Parish Council
Litter Pick Risk Assessment Adopted 4 March 2024

- 1) This form should be completed by the lead volunteer before the start of any litter pick. Litter picks are generally very safe and it is unlikely that you will encounter any serious hazards or incidents – you will see that the points in this risk assessment are just common sense and are worth considering to ensure your event runs as smoothly and safely as possible.
- 2) As the organiser of the litter pick you should ensure that all volunteers know the risks and understand the control measures before clearing any litter. It is sensible to address all volunteers and introduce yourself as the lead volunteer/organiser, so they know who to go to with questions/to report an incident. You should also check that all volunteers know what equipment they must use and what area they may clean up. A copy of this risk assessment should be given to volunteers before the event and should be available on request.
- 3) As the organiser of the litter pick you should ensure that all volunteers know the risks and understand the control measures before clearing any litter. It is sensible to address all volunteers and introduce yourself as the lead volunteer/organiser, so they know who to go to with questions/to report an incident. You should also check that all volunteers know what equipment they must use and what area they may clean up. A copy of this risk assessment should be given to volunteers before the event and should be available on request.
- 4) An Excel copy of this assessment (available via email to clerk@greatandlittlehampdenparishcouncil.gov.uk enables individual volunteers to undertake their own risk assessment by completing the columns headed 'Volunteer personal residual likelihood score' and 'Volunteer personal residual impact score'. The final column 'Volunteer personal overall residual risk rating' will then automatically update.

Name	
Date	
Mobile phone number	
Location of litter pick	

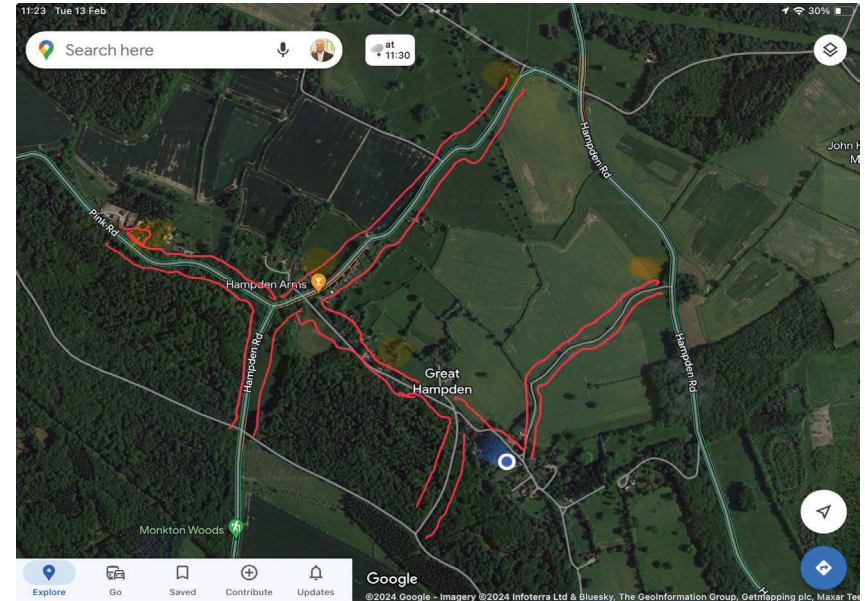
Categories of risk [Hazards]	
1	Manual handling
2	Slips, trips and falls
3	Adverse weather
4	Biological hazards
5	Sharp objects
6	Contaminated waste
7	Collisions
8	Lone working
9	Undisclosed health issues
10	Safeguarding children

Understanding risk	
Likelihood: Likelihood is the probability of an occurrence considering the control measures that you have in place	
Likelihood score	Description
1 (Low)	Where harm is unlikely to occur under normal circumstances. Low expectation of occurrence.
2 (Medium)	Where harm is likely to occur in time or exposure to the hazard exists intermittently or hazardous event occurs occasionally.
3 (High)	Where the hazard is likely to occur imminently or in the very short term, or exposure is permanent or occurs frequently or much evidence of previous harm.
Severity: Severity is how serious a potential risk could be.	
Severity score	Description
1 (Low)	All other minor injuries – first aid treatment with no permanent harm – minor cuts and bruises
2 (Medium)	Injuries or work related illness where people are unable to undertake their normal work for more than 3 days ; semi permanent harm or injury.
3 (High)	Death, major injury or work related illness, permanent harm or disability.

Risk assessment matrix				
Likelihood	Highly likely (3)	Medium (3)	High (6)	High (9)
	Possible (2)	Low (2)	Medium (4)	High (6)
	Unlikely (1)	Low (1)	Low (2)	Medium (3)
		Neglig	Moder	Severe (3)
		Severity		

Approval

Pick Area Map 2024 (road highlighted by red marks - litter bag drops highlighted by faint yellow spot)



Risk No	Categories of risk [Hazards]	Who might be harmed and how	Activity risk rating (without controls)	Control Measures	Activity risk rating (with controls)	Volunteer personal residual likelihood score	Volunteer personal residual impact score	Volunteer personal overall residual risk rating
1	Manual handling							
1.1	Carrying bags, moving bins, moving large and heavy objects, reaching, bending and twisting	Volunteers Musculoskeletal issues from over exertion	High	Litter picker sticks and bag hoops provided to avoid bending and ease debris transferral Volunteers to be aware to lift and move items by using their leg muscles to bend – not their backs! Regular breaks are recommended and can be taken at anytime Volunteers are made aware to wear suitable footwear that have good tread such as hiking boots or study trainers Volunteers are made aware not to lift or move anything above their own capability. Report any issues such as moving heavy hazardous items to the organiser. Volunteers are aware to only collect litter that can be transferred easily into black bags	Low			0
2	Slips, trips and falls							
2.1	Uneven or slippery ground surfaces, steep banks, shrubs, brambles, tree branches, debris, and dark areas	Volunteers Head injuries, fractures, dislocations, sprains, cuts and bruises	High	Volunteers should stay within the pathway boundary and not to venture into banked up areas Volunteers are made aware to wear suitable footwear that have good tread such as hiking boots or study trainers – no open toed shoes Volunteers to be aware of the surface they are walking on and the current weather conditions Litter picking should only take place during daylight hours	Low			0
3	Adverse weather							
3.1	Heavy rain – flood, deep puddles or fast flowing water Ice/snow – difficult walking conditions High winds – trees to bend/break Extreme heat – over exposure to UV rays	Volunteers Head injuries, fractures, dislocations, sprains, cuts and bruises, fatigue, dehydration, sun burn	High	Volunteers should be aware of the local weather reports and assess if it is suitable to carry out the litter picking. Volunteer to be aware of changing weather conditions during their litter pick Do not litter pick in extreme weather Clothing worn should be appropriate to the weather conditions i.e. sun hat and sun screen during hot weather, waterproof and warm clothing in cold weather Regular breaks are recommended	Low			0

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4	Biological hazards							
4.1	Dirty water, faeces, vomit, used condoms, used syringes	Volunteers Infections and diseases	High	Suitable clothing and sturdy footwear to be worn at all times Use litter pickers at all times – do not use hands Volunteers are recommended to use gloves of at least EN388 standard to ensure they are puncture and tear resistant. Any existing cuts/grazes should be covered with surgical tape or waterproof plaster before starting activity Do not touch any unidentified and potentially hazardous waste and report it Be aware of personal hygiene and wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking, going to the toilet and handling children. Do not touch your own face prior to washing your hands	Low			0
4.2	Fly-typed waste	Volunteers Infections and diseases Contact with potentially toxic or hazardous material.	Medium	Volunteers should never approach suspicious looking containers with or without hazard warning badges Any suspicious drums, materials or containers with contents not identifiable to be left untouched and report to the local authority using the fixmystreet website If there is an accumulation of waste which would obviously have been fly-tipped deliberately on site, then this should be left alone and the local authority using the fixmystreet website https://fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/	Low			0
5	Sharp objects							
5.1	Broken glass, syringes, nails, cans, sharp twigs	Volunteers Cuts and abrasions	High	Suitable clothing and sturdy footwear to be worn at all times Volunteers advised not to handle sharps, i.e. needles, syringes etc Volunteers advised to alert organiser if sharps are found and if able, they will arrange proper disposal using sharps kit / by the council Broken glass to be collected in glass bucket and disposed of safely at end of the event Volunteers are recommended to wear gloves of at least standard EN388 and EN374 protect themselves against micro-organisms and be adequately puncture and tear resistant Use litter pickers at all times Any accidental piercings by syringe should be immediately treated at A&E	Low			0
6	Contaminated waste							
6.1	Litter contaminated by hazardous substances	Volunteers Chemical burns, skin irritation, sickness, diarrhoea, infections and diseases	Medium	Do not handle any can, canister, oil drum, poisons, insecticides, clinical waste, hazardous substances, dead animals, broken glass, condoms, syringes, needles or sharp objects – report it to us using our online report it form Suitable clothing and sturdy footwear to be worn at all times Be aware of personal hygiene and wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking, going to the toilet and handling children. Do not touch your own face prior to washing your hands	Low			0
6.2	Dog fouling / faeces	Volunteers Risk of contact with toxocara canis	Medium	Do not touch dog faeces Do not use litter-pickers Always wear gloves and use a plastic spade when removing dog faeces If a volunteer steps in dog faeces, clean shoes if possible If found warn others in the vicinity If touched, thoroughly wash your hands Thoroughly wash any cuts or abrasions as soon as possible, however minor. Seek medical attention where appropriate.	Low			0
7	Collisions							
7.1	Vehicles, cyclists, joggers, dogs, other pedestrians	Volunteers Head injuries, fractures, dislocations, sprains, cuts and bruises	Medium	Hi-viz tabards must be worn at all times. Volunteers are advised to be aware of their surroundings and be considerate of other using the route and look before making abrupt changes in direction Follow the highway code at all times Don't work on the roadside if the speed limit is 40mph or over (unless the layout of the road naturally reduces the speed of traffic below this level) Don't litter pick on the highway, roundabout, central reservation or in the road Volunteers should not wear headphones, ear buds or any other device when undertaking the litter pick	Low			0
8	Lone working							
8.1	Violence/abuse	Volunteers Stress	Low	Lone working is not recommended, minimum of 2 persons at any one time Fully charged mobile phone to be carried at all times by volunteers Ensure you inform someone of your whereabouts when out litter picking and an agreed timescale Litter picking should only be carried out during daylight hours Anyone under the age of 16 needs to be supervised by an appropriate adult Do not trespass onto private property whilst litter picking	Low			0
9	Undisclosed health issues							

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9.1	Diabetes, epilepsy, hay fever and adverse reactions to stings, bites, nettles	Volunteers Stress, ill health and allergies	Low	Volunteers who are aware they have underlying health issues should ensure they protect themselves sufficiently during the activity bearing in mind the environment they will be surrounded by It would be prudent to inform a friend that will be with you of any health issues prior to starting the litter pick Carry appropriate equipment and medication if required Do not approach any domestic pets unless agreed by the owner. Try not to disturb any wildlife that you may come across Be aware of your nearest defibrillator - ON THE MEMORIAL HALL OUTSIDE WALL Consider taking a first aid kit	Low			0
10	<u>Safeguarding children</u>							
10.1	Children and vulnerable adults	Children and vulnerable adults	Medium	All children up to the age of 16 and any vulnerable adults to be accompanied by responsible adult (parent, carer or teacher) in approved ratios All volunteers to maintain vigilance where members of the public not participating in the event are using the same public space In the event of an incident, immediately inform the local Police and any other relevant agencies	Low			0