

Gulworthy Parish Council Risk Assessment for Gulworthy Cemetery

Activity	Hazard	Risk	Control	Level	Additional measures and dates
Grass cutting	Grass cutting in cemeteries using ride on mower, strimmers and other tools.	Injury to operator; burns, cuts, bruises, damage to hearing and eyes; including broken bones, dust inhalation and being hit by projectiles.	Contractors to have their own risk assessment in place as well as public liability insurance of at least £5M.	Low-medium	Risk assessment and policy to be reviewed at least annually. Copy of contractors liability insurance certificate and risk assessment to be kept on file.
Memorial inspection	Checking memorials for stability and repair	Injury to members of the public or burial contractors	If needed specialist contractors to be appointed to carry out memorial inspections. Inspectors must be NAMM or BRAMM trained and have passed the City & Guilds Certificate of Competence for the safety inspection and assessment of memorials. Untrained individuals are not permitted to carry out testing. Clerk carried out 'wobble' test begin of 2025. All resolved.	Low-Med	Ongoing
General Maintenance	General maintenance of vegetation, flower	Injury to members of the public and burial	A contractor is appointed to maintain all	Low	Contractors to be made aware of

	beds, footpaths, litter picking and weed control.	contractors.	green areas and footpaths. Weed killing is only to be carried out by an appointed specialist contractor as and when required.		any risk within the site.
Tree or branches falling	Working on trees with machinery, ladders and hoists including felling, pruning and lopping.	Injury to contractors, members of the public and the burial contractors.	All trees to be periodically checked visually. Any concerns to be raised with arborist.	Low	Ongoing
Weather	Sun burn or cold wet conditions	Sun burn or hypothermia affecting contractors.	Contractors advised to wear suitable clothing, use sunscreen and keep well hydrated.	Low	
Uneven and/or slippery paths/surfaces	Slips, trips and falls	Injury to members of the public or contractors	Contracted grounds person to ensure all footpaths are kept clear of trip and slip hazards such as branches, dead leaves, moss, etc. Subsidence/re-levelling of individual plots will be checked periodically by the Parish Council. Tarmac driveway to be checked by PC for wear and tear/holes.	Low-Med	Ongoing
Mole hills	Trips and falls	Injury to members of the public or contractors	Parish Council to check on mole activity at regular intervals. Mole catcher has been used when needed since 2024	Low	Ongoing
Dog mess	Ill	Dogs being	No dogs allowed	Low	

	health/unpleasant soiled shoes	<i>exercised off the lead and possible toxoplasmosis</i>	in cemetery unless guide dogs.		
Litter	Disrespect of people not taking their own litter home (as requested)	Trip hazard, unpleasant mess, damage to wildlife.	All people are asked to take their litter home with them or to use the compost bins provided for non plastic.	Low	Sign already in place
Lone working	Accidents, aggression or intimidation from others	Psychological and physical injuries	All contractors are advised to carry a charged mobile phone with them. Any burial contractors to notify the Parish Council that they are to work alone in the cemetery and to contact the Police if they experience unwanted or aggressive behaviour from members of the public.	Low	Ongoing
Entrance gates	Heavy metal entrance gates	Damage to fingers, etc., or catching vehicle if not open properly.	Check hinges and closing mechanisms regularly and record results.	Low	Ongoing
Low hanging electrical cables from above	Electrical	Potentially dangerous to anyone entering/existing the cemetery	Visually check and report if concerned.	Medium	Ongoing
Cemetery benches x 2	Defects to wood or bench itself	Splinters, slip off, etc	Check for wear and tear and record	Low-Med	Ongoing
Pre-dug burial plots	Open deep hole	Hole once dug should be covered with boards and grass	Check method being adhered to by E.Pascoe and Sons.	Medium	Ongoing
Vehicles	Collison with	Employee and	Vehicular access	Medium	Ongoing

	other vehicles when entering/leaving main road	contractors, members of the public	is restricted on site. For parking only. Users to exercise caution when leaving main highway		
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Completed June 2023.

Re-checked:

October 2023

January 2024

October 2024

December 2024

July 2025