

Site Risk Assessment – Wildlife Reserve

Barrow Hill, Acton

Nearest A&E:

West Suffolk Hospital
 Hardwick Lane
 Bury St Edmunds
 IP33 2QZ
 Tel: 01284 713000

| Nature of Hazard | Harmful Outcome | Groups at Risk | Current Precautions | Risk | Further Precautions |
|---|---|-----------------------|---|-------------|---|
| Pond - No water in pond at the time of this assessment. | Falling into pond. Risk of sprains, fractures, or breaks; bruising or abrasion from falling | Volunteers Public | Pond is fenced off. | Medium | No-one should work in or near the pond alone. |
| Uneven ground | Sprains, fractures, or breaks; bruising or abrasion from falling | Volunteers Public | Suitable footwear with ankle protection to be used. Visual inspection of site prior to commencing work. | Low | |
| Hazardous plants (e.g. brambles, nettles) | Puncture wounds and infection risk from brambles Stings from nettles | Volunteers Public | Wear gloves when working with hazardous plants Remove gloves before eating or drinking. Seek medical attention in case of puncture wound to reduce infection risk. Regular maintenance to be carried out | Medium | First aid kit on site in locked container; accessible when voluntary work is carried out. |
| Long grass | In summer months – potential for ticks that can carry Lyme disease | Volunteers Public | Wear long trousers. Keep to paths or areas of shorter grass during tick season. Check for ticks at the end of the session. | Low | |
| Trees | Falling limbs | Volunteers Public | Regular inspection and maintenance of trees to ensure they are healthy. No work to be carried out near to trees when there are high winds. | Low | |

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| Animals | Diseases spread by animals Potential for bites | Volunteers Public | Wear gloves. Wash hands after session. First aider on site. Request dogs be put on lead if they are behaving aggressively. Report any incidents to group leader. | Low | |
| Insect bites and stings | Slips, trips and falls Insect bites and stings – irritation and potential for allergic reaction | Volunteers Public | Suitable footwear with ankle protection to be used. Have first aid kit and first aid trained person on site. Volunteers with known allergies to exercise caution. Volunteers with severe allergies must carry EpiPen and should inform group leader and/or designated first aider. | Low | |
| Fuel for machinery | Fuel for machinery stored in container could pose a risk if there are naked flames in the vicinity. | Volunteers Public | No more than 30 litres is stored. Signage on container advising fuel stored and fire hazard. | Low | Only authorised members of the Parish Council have access to the container and fuel. |

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| Assessment by: Cllr Le Grys & Abbie Lee (Clerk) | Date assessment presented to the Parish Council: Full Council Meeting 21st January 2026 |
| Date of this assessment: 9th January 2025 | Next assessment due: 9th January 2027 |