

**RA: SL020 Ouse Valley Park (Millfield to Stony Stratford Nature Reserve)**



Original Date	06 November 2010	Review dates	01 March 2012 GR/CS March 2017 CS January 2019 MT (Interim) January 2020 MT (Interim)
Originator	Gordon Redford; Site Presentation and Safety		
Reviewed by	Colin Savage – Landscape Officer		
Risk Rating	<b>LOW</b>	Next Review	<b>January 2021</b>

L – Likelihood    S – Severity    RR – Risk Rating    (Min. Rev Periods: Significant Risk (High) – 12 monthly; Medium and Low – 2 yearly)

Hazards and Activity	People at Risk	Risk before controls			Control Measures	Residual Risk after controls		
		L	S	RR		L	S	RR
Water in the form of River Ouse (Parts of which flood at times of high rainfall) and ponds at Stony Stratford Nature Reserve	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	5	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Safety Policy, and Water Safety Risk Assessment in place.</li> <li>Water safety signage and safety equipment in place and checked monthly and recorded on PSS.</li> <li>Swimming, general water play, ice play not permitted and actively discouraged when known to be taking place.</li> <li>Regular press releases and educational initiatives undertaken to encourage responsible behaviour.</li> <li>Any illicit water activity monitored and recorded by Community Rangers.</li> <li>Water use by Milton Keynes Angling Association (MKAA) licensed by the Property Team and Operations Team.</li> </ul>	1	5	5
River Ouse causing bank erosion and causing risk of bank collapsing and therefore issues relating to falling into water and drowning	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	5	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moved the footpath in Tombs Meadow away from the top of the river bank and new path was built 5-6 metres away from the river bank</li> <li>Planting willow trees to strengthen the bank – creating a 'Willow Wall' as required and where possible</li> <li>During period of high water levels and flooding weekly bank monitoring in place by Community team and</li> </ul>	1	5	5

					<p>Landscape Officers. Other periods it is subject to monthly Water Safety checks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consulting, cooperating and escalating incidents to Environmental Agency when appropriate e.g. bank collapsing</li> <li>• Gabion baskets installed in locations prone to regular and extensive damage – further similar works are subject to SMT decision based on incident history and assessment.</li> </ul>			
Activities of other legitimate park users such as anglers, and licensed events may lead to injuries	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All events involving more than 50 persons licensed, risk assessed, insured and competence checked and overseen by Marketing, Events and Community Team.</li> <li>• Contractors and Direct Works instructed to be mindful of public to place appropriate signage informing the public of the work areas.</li> <li>• Activities planned and organized are to be zoned to minimize potential conflict with general public.</li> <li>• Liaise with organized groups e.g. Milton Keynes Angling Association to ensure safe practices.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Contractors, Direct Works, volunteers and grazier operations may endanger public and lead to accidents	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	v	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape Officers/Park staff oversee all operations and advise on safety and best practice.</li> <li>• Operators instructed to stop work if public are at risk.</li> <li>• Works organized to avoid areas of high public use whenever possible.</li> <li>• Grazier, operators instructed to be mindful of public use and to place man at work signs either end of work site.</li> <li>• Contractors and other authorized drivers required to use "hazard lights" and to travel no faster than 10mph.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Collision with vehicles may lead to injuries	Public Staff	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car parks laid out to facilitate safe parking.</li> </ul>	1	4	4



	Volunteers Contractors				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car park surfaces checked regularly with a 6-monthly recorded inspection.</li> <li>• Overflow area utilized at times of high usage.</li> <li>• No unauthorized vehicles permitted on the park and policed by Community Rangers.</li> <li>• Ensure supervision of vehicular access for events and activities.</li> <li>• Contractors and other authorized drivers required to use hazards and travel no faster than 10mph speed.</li> <li>• Contractors and Trust vehicles to be clearly identified by legitimate signs with a company name/logo.</li> <li>• Vehicular access points gated, fenced or bollarded and all structures are monitored and maintained.</li> </ul>			
Levels of vermin (Rats, Canada Geese, Rabbits) may endanger public health leading to illness.	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vermin activity monitored and reasons for high levels investigated.</li> <li>• Safe control measures initiated when necessary and managed by Trust staff. (See Shooting Rabbits on Trust Land Risk Assessment).</li> <li>• See Cleansing details below.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Presence of biological hazards e.g. dog mess, Weils disease, blue-green algae, sharps may lead to ill health	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park comprehensively litter picked by contractors. Car Parks at Queen Eleanor Street(2) ; Summer-twice weekly/Winter weekly Stratford Road Car Park; Summer /Winter-Twice weekly Millfield; Weekly All as TC370</li> <li>• Site visited regularly by staff and volunteers who report on safety and cleanliness.</li> <li>• Parish council provide and maintain dog waste bins.</li> <li>• Inspections for blue-green algae after prolonged warm spells with no rain and signage in place when present.</li> </ul>	1	4	4

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All staff working in, on or near water made aware of Weils disease and issued with Leptospirosis cards.</li> <li>As per Water Safety policy, swimming, general water play, not permitted and actively discouraged when known to be taking place</li> </ul>			
Slips, trips and falls may lead to injury	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leisure route paths, bridges, boardwalks are on a 6 monthly recorded, checking regime.</li> <li>Site patrolled on a regular basis by staff and volunteers.</li> <li>Any manhole covers which are seen with a visual problem will be reported to the service owner or MKC if owner not easily identified.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Damaged gates, fences, furniture may lead to injury	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gates, fences in grazing areas accessing roads, furniture, car parks are on a 6-monthly recorded, checking regime. All fencing and boundaries on annual recorded checking regime.</li> <li>Site patrolled on a regular basis by staff and volunteers.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Damage to other park hard works may lead to accident and injury	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Car parks, environs, height barriers, bird hides, bollards, interpretation notice boards, signage are on 6-monthly recorded checking regimes.</li> <li>Site patrolled on a regular basis by staff and volunteers.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Lack of or poor maintenance of “green works” may lead to accident and injury	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive schedule for all “green works” on site in place and managed by Landscape Officers who oversee all works.</li> <li>Landscape staff selected on criteria requiring knowledge and experience of landscape management.</li> <li>Training provided to maintain high standards of landscape management.</li> </ul>	1	4	4



					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site patrolled regularly by Trust staff and volunteers trained to identify and report situations that present hazards to public safety.</li> <li>• Significant Trees Register in place and maintained to monitor trees of a certain age, type, level of decay and location that may present a hazard to life and/or property.</li> </ul>			
Presence of grazing animals may lead to injury	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grazing areas signed with advice for dog owners.</li> <li>• Animals selected for docility and regularly monitored and checked by grazier.</li> </ul>	1	4	4
Escapes by stock from park on to adjacent land, properties and roads leading to damage and accidents	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self closing gates used wherever possible and are a part of a regular checking regime.</li> <li>• Fence lines that access on to roads are checked every 6 months and findings recorded.</li> <li>• Fence lines that access roads regularly checked by the stock watchers responsible for stock checks</li> <li>• All fence lines checked prior to the introduction of any stock by the farmer.</li> <li>• All fence lines inspected annually.</li> <li>• Any movement of stock carefully planned.</li> <li>• Stock regularly checked (for illness or other possible causes of aggression) by trained and qualified stock persons especially on introduction to new grazing areas.</li> </ul>	1	5	5
Presence of uncontrollable/excitable dogs may lead to injuries	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog owners encouraged to ensure their dogs are under control and kept on lead during birds nesting season.</li> <li>• Community Ranger staff liaise with other organisations with an interest in responsible dog ownership.</li> <li>• Social media communication and events organized as required to encourage responsible behavior.</li> </ul>	1	3	3

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trust has produced “You and Your Dog in the Parks” leaflet to encourage responsible behaviour.</li> </ul>			
Contact with some plants, fungi and insects may lead to allergic reactions or illness	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organised groups such as schools, guided walks are made aware of the dangerous potential of some plants when relevant.</li> <li>Wasp and hornet nests monitored and destroyed if in locations where they may cause injury.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Adverse weather conditions may lead to hypothermia or heat exhaustion	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Safety emergency information advises of likelihood of flooding after heavy rainfall and danger of ice during very cold weather.</li> <li>Lighting of fires not permitted.</li> <li>After high winds, areas checked for windthrown trees and made safe.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
No public toilets and washing facilities onsite may lead to hygiene issues and subsequent illness/infection	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	5	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organised groups advised of lack of facilities and to organize facilities elsewhere.</li> </ul>	1	5	5
Anti-social and/or inappropriate behavior may lead to accidents and injury	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	2	5	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anti-social behavior policed/monitored / recorded and incidents investigated by Community Ranger staff.</li> <li>Community staff liaise with/inform Anglian Water of misuse of their weir, dam structure and keep records of known incidents.</li> <li>Community Ranger staff liaise with police, parish officers, parish councils and others to manage and resolve such situations.</li> </ul>	1	5	5
Contact with litter/fly-tipped material may lead to injury/illness	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Litter cleansed to prescribed regime by contractors and by event organizers as a requirement of their licenses.</li> <li>Sites visited regularly by volunteers and staff who report on cleanliness.</li> </ul>	1	3	3



					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrangements in place (via contractors) for prompt removal of dangerous fly-tipped material.</li> </ul>			
Contact with burnt out cars may lead to injury/illness	Public Staff Volunteers Contractors	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burnt out cars removed as soon as possible by police and temporarily fenced when aware, while removal awaited.</li> </ul>	1	3	3

New measures required	By whom	Expected date of completion	Status/Comments

A 5x5 risk grid should be used to evaluate the risk; Risk Rating = Likelihood x Severity

		Severity of Harm				
		Minor - Causing minor injuries (e.g. cuts, scratches). No lost time likely other than first aid treatment.	Low - Causing moderate injuries (e.g. sprains, bruises, lacerations).	Medium - Causing temporary disability/significant injury (e.g. fractures).	High - Causing permanent disability (e.g. loss of limb, sight or hearing).	Major - Death to one or more people. Loss or damage is such that it could cause serious business disruption (major fire, structural damage).
Likelihood of Occurrence		1	2	3	4	5
<b>Unlikely/Remote</b> - Loss, accident or illness could only occur under exceptional conditions. Situation is well managed and all reasonable precautions have been taken.	1	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Low/Improbable</b> - Situation generally well managed but occasional lapses could occur. Also applies to situations where people are required to behave in order to protect themselves but are well trained.	2	2	4	6	8	10
<b>Medium/Occasional</b> - Insufficient or substandard controls. Loss is unlikely during normal operation but may occur in emergencies or non-routine conditions.(e.g. keys left in vehicle, obstructed gangways, refresher training required)	3	3	6	9	12	15
<b>High/Probable</b> - Serious failures in management controls. Effects of human behavior or other factors could cause an accident but is unlikely without additional factor.(e.g. equipment not used properly, oil spill, poorly trained staff)	4	4	8	12	16	20
<b>Almost Certain/Frequent</b> - Absence of any management controls. Almost 100% certainty that an accident will happen. (e.g. live electrical conductor , faulty equipment, untrained staff).	5	5	10	15	20	25

Multiplying relevant likelihood of occurrence by severity of harm gave a risk factor priority risk from identified hazards and activities as low/medium/high rating which was then checked in the table below to decide the level of actions required.

15-25	High – unacceptable - immediate actions required
6-12	Medium – efforts should be made to reduce the risk
1-5	Low – acceptable – no action required – to be monitored