

**RA: SL031 Loughton Valley Park ( H5 to Teardrop Lakes)**

Original Date	06 November 2010	Review dates	08 February 2012
Originator	Gordon Redford; Site Presentation and Safety		26 June 2013
Reviewed by	Julie Dawes - Julie Dawes - Events and Community Engagement Manager; Julian Kendall – Community Ranger		26 June 2014 26 June 2015 26 June 2016 RW/DG March 2017 JD/JK January 2019 MT (Interim) January 2020 MT (Interim)
Risk Rating	<b>MEDIUM</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 Loughton Brook (Parts of which flood at times of high rainfall), 3 ponds along brook and 4 lakes that comprise Teardrop Lakes	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 in place and checked monthly. (6 x Nag, 3 information signs at carparks)</li> <li>Due to continued vandalism, there is no water safety equipment along brook or at the Lakes</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 and alerted to Thames Valley Police</li> <li>Water use by Milton Keynes Angling Association (MKAA) licensed, risk assessed, insured and overseen by Operations Director and Community Rangers.</li> </ul>	2	5	10

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fishing only permitted from approved pegs.</li> </ul>			
Activities of other legitimate park users such as equestrians and licensed events may lead to injuries		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>Dog control is monitored and owners educated where possible- this is to assist with the safety of horse riding in this area</li> <li>There have been incidents of loose horses in this area. Rangers/Trust staff and the local equestrian centre can be called to assist in this event.</li> <li>Regular paddock checks are conducted to ensure that the fencing remains to a good standard</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Anti-social and/or inappropriate behavior may lead to accidents and injury		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 Ranger staff liaise with police, parish officers, parish councils and others to manage and resolve such situations.</li> <li>The Mound area has been a hotspot for anti-social behavior. All such is reported to Thames Valley Police and monitored by the Ranger Team.</li> <li>The car park at Garforth Place has had needles found and condoms. Regular patrols are made to reduce the likelihood of this type of activity</li> <li>Any hot spots identified are subject to more routine visits</li> </ul>	1	5	5

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce unwanted behaviour the Rangers engage with local stakeholders such as Thames Valley/ Parish Council/ MK Council</li> <li>Anyone finding litter that is likely to have bodily fluid contamination should report this to a Community Ranger to resolve.</li> </ul>			
Contractors, Direct Works, volunteers' operations may endanger public and lead to accidents		3	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 whenever possible.</li> <li>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		3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Car parks laid out to facilitate safe parking.</li> <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> <li>Use of park as overflow for National Bowl events to be overseen by the Marketing, Events and Community</li> </ul>	1	4	4

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					Team, fully licensed and risk assessed and MK SAG to be informed.			
Presence of biological hazards e.g. dog waste, Weils disease, blue-green algae, sharps may lead to ill health		3	5	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park comprehensively litter picked by contractors. Car Parks at Redland Drive and Garforth Place; Summer-twice weekly/Winter-weekly Remaining Area; Monthly All as per TC390.</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> <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>	1	5	5
Levels of vermin (Rats, Canada Geese, Rabbits, squirrels) may endanger public health leading to illness.		3	5	15	<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	5	5
Presence of uncontrollable/excitable dogs may lead to injury	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> <li>• Trust has produced “You and Your Dog in the Parks” leaflet to encourage responsible behaviour.</li> </ul>	1	3	3

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Dead wood may fall from trees in high winds leading to injuries		3	5	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area checked for windthrown and hung up trees after high winds.</li> </ul>	1	5	5
Lack of or poor maintenance of “green works” may lead to accident and injury		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> <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>			
Slips, trips and falls may lead to injury		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> <li>Presence of a raised manhole at base of mound which is monitored for deterioration.</li> <li>During Snow straw bales are placed at the base of the mound.</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Damaged gates, fences, furniture may lead to injury		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> </ul>	1	3	3

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site patrolled on a regular basis by staff and volunteers.</li> </ul>			
Damage to other park hard works may lead to accident and injury		3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car parks, environs, height barriers, 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
Contact with some plants and fungi may lead to allergic reactions or illness		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 flooding, fire risk, windthrown trees causing injuries.		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, area 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		3	5	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organised groups advised of lack of facilities and to organize facilities elsewhere.</li> <li>• Camping is strictly not permitted at this location</li> <li>• No camping is enforced by Community Rangers who will remove any illicit camps- calling on support from Thames Valley Police where appropriate.</li> <li>• Where camping is by the Homeless- advice is given about alternative shelters.</li> <li>• Community Rangers will enforce the removal of illegal camps</li> <li>• Challenging campers should form a two-person operation and at no time should a Ranger enter into a tent, the camper must be verbally instructed to leave the tent to discuss the situation</li> </ul>	1	5	5

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unauthorized camping removal procedure in place</li> </ul>			
Contact with litter/fly-tipped material may lead to injury/illness		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> <li>Arrangements in place (via contractors) for prompt removal of dangerous fly-tipped material.</li> <li>Staff and volunteers support with litter picking the area</li> </ul>	1	3	3
Contact with burnt out cars may lead to injury/illness		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
Uncontrollable sledges, toboggans colliding with people climbing slope (Teardrop Lake, Viewpoint)	Participants Members of the public Staff Contractors	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not possible to control numbers nor to supervise movement of participants</li> </ul>	3	3	9
Broken material used as sledges and broken glass on surface leading to injuries (Teardrop Lake, Viewpoint)	Participants Members of the public Staff Contractors	4	3	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspect area and clear debris on a daily basis.</li> <li>Activity monitored.</li> </ul>	2	3	6

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





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

		Severity of Harm				
		Likelihood of Occurrence	1 <small>Minor - Causing minor injuries (e.g. cuts, scratches). No lost time likely other than first aid treatment.</small>	2 <small>Low - Causing moderate injuries (e.g. sprains, bruises, lacerations).</small>	3 <small>Medium - Causing temporary disability/significant injury (e.g. fractures).</small>	4 <small>High - Causing permanent disability (e.g. loss of limb, sight or hearing).</small>
<b>1</b>	<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	2	3	4	5
<b>2</b>	<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	4	6	8	10
<b>3</b>	<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	6	9	12	15
<b>4</b>	<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	8	12	16	20
<b>5</b>	<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	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