Risk assessment: Scrub work Date: 11th September 2024

Reviewed by: Maria Gill

Approved by: Jonathan Dent

Hazards	Risks	Who might be harmed	Risk level	Control measure already in use	Effectiveness of those control measures
Brambles and thorny bushes	- Cuts and punctures - Tetanus - Eye injuries	Staff Volunteers Members of public	High	 Wear gloves and take care to remove rubbish from brambles and other thorny bushes Wear long sleeves to protect arms People should obtain immunity and ensure that it is kept up date Exercise caution when pulling out long stretches of bramble Pile bramble cuttings in specified area Exercise caution when carrying brambles Ensure no thorns or obstructions are left on paths 	High
Overhanging branches	-Branches hitting people -Branches falling	Staff Volunteers Members of public		-Assess height of overhanging branches before approaching to ensure volunteers are not hit -Use loppers to cut where necessary as long handles should allow volunteers to stand well back from falling branches -Do not stand directly underneath a branch being cut - Alert other people in vicinity when removing a branch	High
Use of hand tools Loppers, secateurs and fork	- Cuts and punctures - Eye injuries - Damage to tools	Staff Volunteers	Moderate	- Keep loppers away from face and eyes - Keep two lopper length distance from other workers - Do not attempt to cut anything thicker than thumb with loppers or secateurs	High
General site Paths, uneven paths, steps, ground	- Slips, trips, falls - Injury from collision with passing bicycles or public	Staff Volunteers	Low	 Inspect site prior to work Warn about potential trip hazards Keep to right hand side of main path to allow bicycles to pass Wear hi-visibility vests to improve visibility or staff / volunteers when necessary. Place at work signs either side of the path so the area is clearly marked. 	Medium

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Litter, metal, glass,	- Cuts	Staff	Moderate	- Inspect site prior to work	Medium
hypodermic needles	- Puncture	Volunteers		- All staff and volunteers to wear gloves when working	
	- HIV and hepatitis			- Use litter-pickers for removal of litter, glass etc.	
				- Volunteers to be told not to touch hypodermic needles but report	
				finding to member of staff or trained volunteer for safe removal	
Dog, Dog faeces	- Toxocariasis	Staff	Moderate	- If dog faeces come into contact with skin or clothes, wash with soap	Medium
Bee stings	- Exposure to pathogens	Volunteers		and hot water without delay	
Contact with soil borne micro-	- Tetanus			- Wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking	
organisms	- Allergic reaction			- Participants to be advised to have tetanus booster after a skin	
				breaking injury if they have not had the full course of 5 shots	
				- Any broken skin to be covered before work	
				- Any cut received must be promptly washed and covered	
				- Use tools or feet to move and firm soil, not hands	
				- If hazardous substances are found on site, work will cease and staff	
				informed immediately	
Adverse weather (extremes of	- Sunstroke/hypothermia	Staff	Moderate	- Staff and volunteers to wear suitable clothing and sturdy footwear in	Medium
hot, cold, wet)	- Slipping on wet mud / ice	Volunteers		the likelihood of adverse weather	
				- Sun block and sun hats to be used	
				- Regular breaks in shade / shelter to be taken	
Medical problems	- Volunteer and staff	Staff	Moderate	- First aider to be present	Medium
	falling ill or injury	Volunteers		- First aid kit to be taken out to area where working	
				- Staff to be informed if volunteers have any prior medical problem that	
				may affect their ability to carry out tasks	