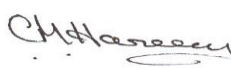
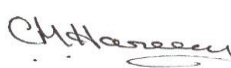




# Church Stretton

## Town Council

### RISK ASSESSMENT RECORD – GRASS CUTTING

<b>Activity Assessed</b>  <b>Grass cutting</b>	<b>Assessment Date</b>  <b>September 2012 &amp; March 2014</b>	<b>Assessed by CM Harvey (Town Clerk)</b>    <b>Signature:</b>  <b>Date: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2012</b>
<b>Activity / Location</b> <b>Grass cutting – Verges around Church Stretton –to include Traffic lights area on A49/Sandford Avenue</b>	<b>Overall Risk Level</b>  <b>LOW</b>	<b>Revised and assessed by</b>    <b>Date: 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b>
<b>Who is at risk?: Operatives/Official visitors and General Public.</b>		

<b>HAZARD</b>  <b>Potential for harm</b>	<b>Pre control risk rating</b>	<b>Actions</b>  <b>Precautions to reduce the risk level</b>	<b>Post control risk rating</b>
<b>1. Existing Environment</b>			
1.1 Tripping/slipping and Falling/debris	Medium	Inspect/assess area before any grass cutting commences and mark trip hazards, remove any debris such as stones etc. Before climbing any banks assess risks of slipping and ensure good foot holes. All operatives must wear the mandatory safety footwear at all times and ensure that the footwear is replaced when the tread is running out or any other faults occur. Ensure no objects or obstacles that could cause tripping are left in way. Avoid working under a bank where there is a risk of falling objects.	Low
1.2 Weather	Low	Work to cease if weather conditions reduce visibility or make working near the highway dangerous.	Low
1.3 Contact with moving traffic and traffic management	High	Work to take place next to live carriageways on A road/B road junctions with a speed limit not exceeding 30 mph. Warning signs to be put out	Medium

		<p>before work commences. Wherever possible maintain a minimum of 1.2m safety zone between working area and the live traffic and keep all machinery and equipment outside that safety zone. Where this is not possible operatives must remain vigilant and take care to remain aware of traffic movements around them.</p> <p>Clear long-sleeve High viz jackets to be worn at all times.</p> <p>Unloading and loading of vehicles with tools and equipment to be on side roads or on verges at suitable locations where a suitable safety zone can be maintained, safe from moving traffic.</p> <p>Signs, cones and area taped if there is any danger from moving vehicles or there is any danger to pedestrians from the goods being loaded or unloaded.</p> <p>All grass cutting to be carried out facing the traffic flow to ensure continuous eye contact with moving vehicles.</p>	
1.4 Public access/interface with public	Medium	Awareness of pedestrian movement must be maintained at all times – appropriate signs are needed to warn of works and vigilance is required from operatives to ensure members of the public do not encroach into the safe working area of the equipment in use.	Low
1.5 Skip / Flying Debris	Low	When placing grass cuttings etc. in a skip (or truck) care must be taken with lifting. Ensure that manual handling rules are applied.	Low
1.6 Contact with branches / twigs.	Low	Advise of risk to eyes from twigs and branches.	Low
1.6a Contact with Soil	Low	Wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking.	Low
1.15 Discarded hazardous materials/waste	Medium	If any hazardous items/substances are found then the team leader must be informed and the item then dealt with in a safe manner and if necessary the authorities informed.	Low
<b>3. Maintenance and Operation</b>			
3.1 Access	Medium	See 1.4 above	Low
3.3 Lone working	Low	Leave no-one isolated on site and look to have people working in teams and ensure that no-one is out of sight of other operatives.	Low
3.4 Manual Handling	Medium	<p>Operatives shall be fit for work and in good general health, have undergone manual handling training and only carry tools and equipment within their personal capability on the day of work.</p> <p>All staff to follow lifting techniques, lifting by bending at the knees. All tools and equipment in use shall be portable in nature and therefore appropriate in size and shape to be handled by an individual. Where necessary, heavy objects to be carried with a team or between two people, with one person giving the commands.</p>	Low
3.5 Personal Protective Equipment	Medium	<p>Sturdy footwear with a good grip must be worn. Ear protectors and visors to be worn when using mowers/trimmers/brush-cutters</p> <p>If any hazardous items/substances are found then the team leader must be informed and the item then dealt with in a safe manner and if necessary the authorities informed.</p> <p>When working near any traffic high visibility</p>	Low

		vests must be worn.	
3.6 Use of tools/equipment	High	<p>Only competent and experienced operatives will undertake work with any of the mechanical tools unless a trainee is under the direct supervision of the team leader, in which case they must undertake low risk work in order to gain experience.</p> <p>Equipment operatives shall be fit for work and in good physical and mental health, and be familiar with the user manual, risk assessment and control measures necessary for the safe operation of the specific piece of equipment in use.</p> <p>Ensure tools/equipment being used are in good condition and that for all tools issued general training has been provided.</p> <p>Stipulate that the tools/equipment must only be used for the purpose outlined and designed.</p> <p>Mechanical equipment must only be used in good light and visibility so the site specific risk assessment must take into account the site conditions (weather and ground).</p> <p>Tools used will be strimmers, blowers and petrol push mowers.</p>	Low
3.9 First Aid	Medium	First aid provision to ensure that accidents are investigated. Ensure that any cuts are protected from infections, washed, cleaned and bandage applied as necessary. At least one member of the team shall be trained in first aid and hold a current certificate. An accident book shall be provided to record any accidents.	Low
<b>5. Landscaping and Tree Works</b>			
5.3 Grass cutting	High	See also 3.6 All operatives on site to be fully qualified in the task they are undertaking and will undertake grass cutting operations following best practice to ensure minimal risk of damage to pedestrians, 3 <sup>rd</sup> party vehicles and property from stones kicked up by equipment	Medium
5.4 Litter picking	Medium	The sites must be thoroughly examined for holes, exposed cables, open manhole covers etc plus rocks, broken glass, nails, wire, string and litter before commencing grass cutting. Any debris found shall be removed in the appropriate manner, using the personal protective equipment (PPE) provided. If there is any which cannot be removed safely, work shall be postponed until the situation has been assessed by the team leader.	Low
5.10 Herbicide/pesticide application	High	<p>This treatment shall only be carried out by qualified operatives, using the correct equipment in the appropriate manner (included PPE) and ensuring that the weather conditions are conducive to safely administering the treatment without harm to themselves or 3<sup>rd</sup> parties.</p> <p>Chemicals used must not be harmful to humans or animals. When undertaking this task, the appropriate signs shall be displayed.</p>	Medium
5.12 Noise and vibration	High	<p>When using noisy/vibrating equipment care must be taken that operatives wear the correct PPE and work planned so that the recommended regular breaks are taken to avoid associated injuries and reduce risk to operatives.</p> <p>All equipment shall be well maintained to reduce levels of noise and vibration and wherever</p>	Low

		<p>possible vibration reducing equipment such as insulated handles will be used to reduce exposure further.</p> <p>The following usage guidelines must be followed to ensure the risk from vibrating equipment is minimised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brush cutter work will be limited to 2 hours use at a time and shall not exceed 8 hours during a working shift (working with Tanaka will be limited to 1hr 30mins at a time and shall not exceed 6 hours use in a shift)</li> <li>• Blower work will be limited to 2 hours use at a time and shall not exceed 8 hours during a working shift.</li> </ul> <p>Blowers and brush-cutters/trimmers all produce noise above 85dBA, the use of hearing protection is therefore mandatory for equipment operators and all operatives working in close proximity to the equipment (i.e. within the safety zone – as a rule you are unable to hold a normal conversation with someone stood around 2m from you without raising your voice the noise level is too high and hearing protection should be worn.</p>	
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