



Risk Assessment for East Ilsley Parish Council

Assessment made
for the year 2024-
2025

No.	Item	Hazard	Those in Danger	Severity 1-10	Likelihood 1- 10	Risk Rate	Measures / Comments	Result
	Allotments							
1	Agreements from Tenants	Improper Control	Clerk Council	1	1	1	Issued first week of April each year, signed agreement returned by 1 st May	T
2	Collection of Rents	Improper Control Loss of Income	RFO Allotment Officer	1	1	1	Cheque or BACS completed at time of signed agreement. RFO to monitor and chase for payments	A
3	Maintenance of Register	Improper Control Reduces Confidence	Clerk	1	1	1	Spreadsheet updated by Clerk yearly, waiting list held on Clerk Laptop	A
4	Insurance	Balance of costs to be found	RFO	1	4	4	Public Liability Insurance held by EIPC. Agreement advises tenants to take out their own Public Liability Insurance as allotments bridge a Public Right of Way	A
5	Vandalism	Cost of replacing damaged items	Tenants	2	4	8	Tenants advised to take out own Public Liability Insurance as above	A
6	Grass Cutting	Uneven surfaces Debris Attracting unwanted wildlife	Tenants	1	4	4	All grass areas are maintained by EIPC using Brush Cutter covered by Public Liability Insurance and only by trained users	A

7	Removal of Rubbish	Attracting unwanted wildlife Debris Trips and Falls	Tenants Allotment Officer	2	4	8	Agreement states rubbish to be removed by tenant or composted. Checked regularly by Allotment Officer	A
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8	Hazardous Substances / Use of Pesticides	Danger to humans and animals Storage issues	Tenants Public	4	4	16	Agreement states limited usage and regular checks conducted by Allotment Officer	A
9	Water Supply	Lack of water available Wasted crops	Tenants	1	1	1	Supply is maintained by Castle Water, paid monthly by direct debit. EIPC responsible for underground pipes and supply taps. Clerk will liaise relevant authority when issues are reported	A
10	Untidy Plots	Trips and Falls Public Eyesore	Tenants Allotment Officer	1	1	1	Point 10i of the Allotment agreements request all tenants maintain a tidy plot. Checked regularly throughout the year	A
11	Maintenance of Equipment	Burst pipes Broken taps	Allotment Officer Clerk	1	2	2	Taps and pipes regularly checked. Water supply off late October to late March in line with BST to avoid damage to pipes	A
12	Inspection of Allotments	Not adhering to agreement regulations	Allotment Officer Clerk	1	2	2	Water pipes, tidiness, flytipping, use of pesticides, grass, trees, and hedging checked regularly throughout the year and actions are overseen by the Clerk and Allotment Officer	A

20	Provision of Insurance	Extra Costs Litigation	Clerk	2	1	2	Checked annually by the Clerk as part of Public Liability	A
21	Damage / Disrepair	Impact Damage Vandalism Cost of Replacement or repairs Paint / Staining	Clerk	2	2	5	Checked regularly by Traffic Officer with visual inspection. Any issues are raised with the Clerk to action. EIPC maintain stain / paint	A

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	Code of Conduct							
22	Incomplete / inaccurate register of Member's Interests	Lack of transparency Open to complaints of fairness or bias	Councillors	1	2	2	Clerk checks annual at Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and when a new Councillor is elected to join.	A
	Common Land (Prestwell Field) and Land							
23	Grazing Rights	Lapse of Grazing Agreements	Tenants Rights Holders	1	1	1	Clerk maintains register of Tithe Holders and monitors dates of grazing rights agreements and re-issues when due	A
24	All land recorded on Asset Register	Lack of Transparency	Council	1	1	1	Clerk maintains Asset Register and all documentation and reviews annually	A

25	Dog Fouling	Exposure to foul	Public	1	10	10	Signage and Bins in place, regularly emptied by WBC. Regular commentary in Parish Magazine and social media channels to remind owners of their responsibilities	N
26	Grass Cutting	Trips and Falls Local Eyesore Attracting unwanted wildlife	Public	1	4	4	Clerk to check annually on contract with WBC. Other grass maintained by contractor and contract signed for 3-year period. Clerk checks on costs every 3 years. Site inspections occur throughout the year	A
27	Vandalism	Trips and Falls General danger from broken or missing items	Public	1	4	4	Regular inspections carried out around the village and review of comments on social media. Clerk to email WBC with any concerns	A

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28	Waste	Trips and Falls General Eyesore Attracting unwanted wildlife	Public Council	1	4	4	Clerk and Councillors to regularly check the village and Clerk to report any flytipping to WBC online	A
29	Fencing	Horses loose Minor injury General danger with broken wood / nails	Public Horses Tenants of Allotments	2	4	8	Allotment Councillor to assess fencing of Prestwell Field and Allotments regularly and advise Clerk is action is needed. Other fencing to be reviewed by all Councillors	A

30	Maintenance of Trees and Hedges	Fallen branches Trips and Falls Danger of road and pavement blockages	Public	2	4	8	Clerk and Councillors to assess regularly around the village. Clerk to advise WBC via online portal or contact Tree Surgeon	A
	Computing							
31	Loss of data on Clerk Laptop due to system fault	Interruption to effective administration Possible financial loss	Clerk	1	4	4	All data on Clerk Laptop is stored on Google Drive. A back up old laptop is kept ensuring continuous working	A
31	Laptop & Printer	Cost of Replacement Repair Costs Accidental damage Theft	Clerk Councillors Parishioners	4	4	16	Clerk to maintain, back up, update and ensure correct running of the laptop regularly. When not in use, kept in locked, fireproof cabinet. No unauthorised use permitted	A
32	Non-compliance with Data Protection	Litigation Poor Reputation	Council Clerk Parishioners	1	4	4	Clerk to monitor on a regular basis and use the ICO website for guidance	A
	Council Meetings							
32	Insurance	Litigation Additional Expenses	Clerk RFO	1	1	1	Ensure both venue for meetings and EIPC have Public Liability Insurance	A

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33	Advertising of Meetings	Poor reputation Loss of confidence	Clerk Council Parishioners	1	1	1	Clerk to publicise the meeting dates for the year, agenda to be posted on Notice Board in Broad Street, on website and social media channels 7 days in advance of the meeting	T

34	Inaccurate, untimely, improper minutes	Poor decisions in future Poor evidence for decisions	Clerk Chair	1	4	4	Clerk to send draft minutes to all Councillors for inspection no later than 3 working days post meeting. Draft minutes to be made public, replaced with approved minutes after next meeting	A
35	Wheelchair Access	Access for all hindered	Clerk	1	4	4	Clerk to ensure all venues selected provides adequate accessibility for all	A
36	Failure to respond to electors wishing to exercise rights of inspection	Complaints received Not transparent Non-compliance	Clerk	1	2	2	Clerk to advertise facility on website and social media channels and to respond to requests	A
37	Failure to achieve quorum at meetings	Business not transacted Decisions not made	Council Clerk	1	4	4	Clerk to issue annual meeting calendar to all Councillors, issue meeting agendas 7 days before the meeting and maintain record of attendance	A
38	Lack of public consultation by Council	Decisions not based on evidence Parishioners disenfranchised	Council	1	2	2	Clerk to ensure meetings are published on Notice Board, Parish Magazine, website, and social media channels, include public questions on agenda, provide advice to public, publish agenda and minutes on the website, consider leafleting	T

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39	Councillors acting alone outside meetings	Outside of compliance Indemnities invalid Personal risk	Councillors	2	2	4	Clerk to issue 'The Good Councillor Guide' to all Councillors when elected, Councillors to avoid making commitments on behalf of the Council, attend relevant training	A
40	Council decisions not implemented	Confidence undermined Reputation risk Possible losses	Clerk	1	4	4	Clerk to publish draft minutes no more than 3 working days after the meeting, minutes are reviewed at next meeting and actions signed off	A
41	Failure to recognise and address conflict of interests	Lack of transparency Open to complaints of fairness or bias	Council Clerk	1	2	2	Clerk to ensure standards are followed and reviewed regularly to check understanding	A
42	Lack of Professional advice	Poor decisions Costs and waste Possible noncompliance	Clerk	2	2	4	Clerk to ensure EIPC maintain membership to NALC, BALC, HALC and SLCC	A
43	Loss of services of Parish Clerk / RFO	Interruption to effective administration	Council Clerk	2	2	4	Seek locum clerk / RFO to assist until a replacement can be found, train one councillor to complete basic financial tasks, email can be forwarded to the Chair, advertise position on website, and NALC	A
44	Failure to correctly identify local needs and wishes	Non-representation of the people Resources not applied Democratic deficit	Council	1	4	4	Maintain close contact with parishioners, advertise parish meetings, obtain feedback, publish plans, and invite comments, use local press and media channels, host events and seek feedback	A

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45	Bad Publicity	Reduces confidence	Council Clerk	1	4	4	Review all press releases or articles prior to publication, manage press relations, be open and transparent	A
46	Allegations of Libel or Slander	Potential for litigation Costs of investigations Reduces confidence	Councillors	1	4	4	Clerk to intervene at meetings, review all press releases and articles prior to publication, adequate insurance cover	A
Council Administration								
47	Declarations of Office	Failure to comply with WBC Monitoring Officer	Councillors Clerk	1	4	4	Clerk to ensure declarations are signed at the meeting, scanned, and emailed to WBC	A
48	Failure to attract sufficient candidates for vacancies or elections	Reduced representation Lack of resources Possibility of meetings not being quorate	Council	1	4	4	Actively publicise Council activities, vacancies, and elections via all channels	A
49	Inadequate document control	Poor evidence Poor support to Council	Clerk	1	2	2	Clerk to establish and maintain appropriate filing of documents in the Cloud and paper copies in locked and fireproof cabinet, enforcement of version control on documents to be reviewed, maintain legislation updates, and comply with changes in statutes and law	A

50	Documents	Storage Issues Lack of transparency Lack of confidence	Clerk RFO	1	2	2	Clerk to use the SLCC and Berkshire Records office on safe storage of documents, archive relevant items after 5 years both paper and online	A
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51	Lack of defined objectives or strategy	Resources not directed Poor performance Risks not base lined	Council	1	2	2	Council to work on compiling a 3 to 5-year plan to assist in identifying projects and work to be completed	A
	Finance							
52	Improper contracting procedures	Possible losses Poor levels of service Possible increase in costs	Clerk RFO	1	4	4	Clerk / RFO to ensure latest 'Model' is adopted, separate Financial Regulations are maintained, Clerk / RFO is adequately trained	A

53	Banking	Misappropriation of Council funds Financial Loss	Public Service	1	2	2	All banking arrangements and changes to banking services approved by the Council and recorded in the minutes, invoices should be paid by BACS where possible, or cheque, Cheques to be signed at Council meetings unless a deadline will be missed, Two signatures needed for BACS and Cheques and stubs to be initialled, Monthly bank reconciliations of all accounts to be completed by RFO and report sent to all Councillors via email, Annual scrutiny of all financial records by RFO and Internal Auditor, If over £25K, External Audit must be completed, any changes in banking are recorded in writing and kept permanently on file, AGAR to be published on website and Notice Board annually	A
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54	Income – ensuring all requirements are met under customs & excise regulations	Unable to fulfil responsibilities	Public Service	1	2	2	Ensure Council understands and complies with current VAT legislation	A

55	Orders for work, goods, and services Monitoring of performance against standards under partnership agreements	Unable to fulfil responsibilities	Public Service	1	2	2	Reviewed at Internal Audit	A
56	Inadequate Insurance	Balance of costs to be found	RFO Clerk	1	4	4	Council to review annually or if circumstances change	A
57	Failure to calculate / submit precept on time	Inadequate resources to meet commitments Cost of re-billing	RFO Clerk	1	4	4	RFO / Clerk to respond to WBC notices, add to budget meeting agenda and agree as full Council	A
58	Inadequate annual precept and unsound budget	Inadequate resources to meet commitments	Council RFO Clerk	1	4	4	RFO / Clerk and Council to build sound budget, using risk register, asset register and known commitments. Council to consider reserves and build into Financial Regulations	A
59	Failure to account for and recover VAT	Wasted resources	RFO Clerk	1	4	4	Clerk to ensure all VAT numbers are recorded on the Alpha Software, Annual VAT claim on 31 st March each year (unless large purchases have generated a higher claim of VAT), checked during Internal and External Audit	A
60	Failure to stay within agreed budgets	Inadequate control Potential wasted resources	Council RFO Clerk	1	2	2	Clerk to review monthly the budget is on track, monitor reserves and mitigate impact of loss	A

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61	Holding excessive or inadequate reserves	Auditors Report Poor use of resources Inability to meet commitments	Council	2	4	8	Clerk / RFO to review as part of budgeting, maintain 100% of annual net expenditure in general reserves (small council limit), align reserves with projects in the 3 to 5 year plan and adjust at full council meeting and record in the minutes	A
62	Fraud by Clerk or RFO	Reputation Costs Litigation	Clerk RFO	1	4	4	Adequate internal audit, regular reporting to Councillors, control systems in place to monitor expenditure	A
63	Fraud by Councillors	Reputation Costs Litigation	Clerk RFO	1	4	4	Adequate internal audit, regular reporting to Councillors, control systems in place to monitor expenditure	A
64	Inadequate awareness of relevant legislation	Failure to comply	Clerk RFO Council	2	4	8	Maintain membership to NALC / BALC / HALC / SLCC, Clerk / RFO to train / qualify	A
65	Failure to comply with relevant legislation	Litigation Costs Reputation damage	Clerk RFO Council	2	4	8	Maintain membership to NALC / BALC / HALC / SLCC, Clerk / RFO to train / qualify, work with internal and external auditors	A
66	Failure to maintain fixed asset register	Improper control Poor Auditors Report	Clerk RFO	1	2	2	Reviewed regularly, Council review at meetings, Internal / External Audit review	A
67	Improper financial records	Potential for wasted resources	Clerk RFO	1	2	2	Internal / External Audit Report	A
68	HMRC Costs not met	Costs Litigation	Clerk RFO	1	4	4	Calculated monthly using HMRC basic pay, payment is made via BACS at same time as Clerk salary	A

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69	S137 Money	Inappropriate use Loss of resources	Parishioners	1	2	2	Clerk to check the S137 figure annually and calculate total amount using current electoral register, budget amount each year based on calculation	A
	GDPR							
70	Personal Data	Litigation Costs / fines Reputation damage Non-compliance	Parishioners Council Clerk RFO	4	4	16	All data is saved using Google Drive, accessed from Clerk Laptop, when not in use laptop is kept locked in fireproof cabinet, laptop is pin protected, no unauthorised access allowed, laptop has firewall, anti-virus software and regular updates, All paper copies of files are stored in locked filing cabinet in Clerk's home, No personal data is recorded in any Council documents in the public domain unless permission has been given	A
71	Sharing of Data	Litigation Costs / Fines Non-compliance Data falling into hands of third party Reputation damage	Parishioners Council Clerk RFO	4	4	16	Personal data is not to be shared unless written permission is sought and an agreement is reached with the organisation to protect the data once passed to them, Mailchimp is used to gather email addresses of parishioners via a contact form on the website which is compliant with GDPR	A

75	Provision of Bins	Fly-tipping Local Eyesore Attracting unwanted wildlife	Clerk	1	2	2	Ensure adequate bins are placed strategically around the village. Triangle & Veolia collections arranged monthly. New 'we're watching you' campaign launched in February 2022 to deter people from not collecting waste.	A
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	Planning							
76	Parish Observation Sheet	Not getting comments to WBC in time	Parishioners	1	2	2	Planning Meetings to be arranged ad-hoc if deadline for comments does not fall before a meeting, ensure agenda is widely published to allow all parishioners to attend, ensure comments are returned before the deadline	A
	Playground							
77	Insurance	Risk of Injury Risk of Vandalism	Parishioners Council	8	4	32	Clerk / RFO to ensure adequate insurance is in place annually to cover the Council	A
78	Complaints / Injuries	Risk of Injury Litigation	Parishioners Council	8	4	32	Clerk to maintain record of complaints and injuries and how they were dealt with, check up on equipment to ensure compliance with standards	A

79	Inspections	Risk of Injury Non-compliance Litigation	Parishioners Council	8	4	32	Annual inspection to be carried out by The Play Inspection Company, clerk to arrange each year, repairs completed post inspection and Playground Officer to report regularly on any issues, Clerk to carry out requests for repair / issues, new play equipment to have a post installation inspection carried out before use	A
80	Budget	Costs Losses Litigation	Council RFO	6	4	24	Maintain ear marked reserves for the annual inspection and repairs annually during budget and project planning	A

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81	Fencing & Signage	Trips and Falls Vandalism Risk of Injury Litigation	Parishioners Council	2	4	8	Playground Officer to regularly inspect fencing and signage and report findings to the Clerk for actioning	A
	Website							
82	Failure of Website	No communication with Parishioners Lack of confidence	Parishioners Council	1	4	4	Clerk to maintain updates to software and plugins, check webmaster has adequate back up plans annually	A
83	Content	Inaccurate information Out of date information Reputation damage Litigation	Council	1	2	2	Clerk to regularly update, delete, amend, add relevant content, in line with legislation, secure copywrite for photographs and GDPR compliance with any personal data	A

84	Budget	Loss of website Additional costs / expenditure	Clerk RFO	1	2	2	Ensure all costs relating to the website are factored into the annual budget and provisions are made	A
85	Tools for maintaining the website	Loss of website Additional costs / expenditure	Clerk RFO	1	2	2	Ensure webmaster uses industry standard software, Clerk received full training and a support plan is in place, clear brand identification is in place and is professional and well maintained	A
86	Dependence on Individual	Loss of website Lack of communication with Parishioners Additional costs / expenditure	Clerk RFO	1	4	4	The Clerk has sole responsibility for maintaining the website, regular training, one other Councillor should know how to access back end system for continuity should Clerk be unavailable, guidebook available	A

No.	Item	Hazard	Those in Danger	Severity 1-10	Likelihood 1-10	Risk Rate	Measures / Comments	Result
87	Freedom of Information	Non-compliance Legislation issues Litigation	Clerk RFO	1	2	2	Webmaster abides by Act as adopted by Council in February 2015 and reviewed regularly	A
88	Data Protection	Non-compliance Legislation issues Litigation	Clerk RFO	1	2	2	Webmaster abides by Act, Mailchimp is used to gather database of email addresses which is fully compliant	A
89	Lack of Motivation	Out of date website Non-compliance	Council	1	2	2	Council to be aware the Clerk is sole manager of website and time must be allocated during working week to maintain the website to acceptable standards	A

	Other items at risk							
90	War Memorial	Loss of Heritage	Parishioners	2	4	8	Clerk to ensure adequate insurance is in place including Public Liability, maintain small ear marked reserves for repair and cleaning costs annually	T
91	Noticeboards	Cost of repair / replace Risk of injury Vandalism	Parishioners Council	1	2	2	Clerk to ensure Notice Boards are well maintained, up to date, in good working order and do not present a risk to anyone, ensure added to insurance and Public Liability insurance, reserves for repair / replace	T
92	Benches	Cost of repair / replace Risk of Injury Vandalism	Parishioners Council	1	4	4	Traffic Officer to check on their suitability of use and repair / replace as necessary, insurance and Public Liability insurance up to date, Clerk to ensure reserves are in place to cover repairs	T
No.	Item	Hazard	Those in Danger	Severity 1-10	Likelihood 1-10	Risk Rate	Measures / Comments	Result

93	The Pond	Cost of excavation and maintenance Flooding issues Damage to homes / businesses	Parishioners	2	4	8	Pond Officer and Flood Warden to review, inspect, and report at each meeting, membership of the Pang Valley Flood Forum, general maintenance of Pond for reeds, grass, and silt build up, Clerk / RFO to ensure adequate reserves in place for ongoing maintenance. Recent excavation completed in September 2021. Pond now rising and falling with rainfall and no imminent danger of flooding. A new life buoy has been installed and 2 x deep water / cold water signs erected at the Pond edge.	A
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Results Key: T = Trivial Risk A = Adequately Controlled Risk N = Not Adequately Controlled U = Unable to Decide (more info needed)

Risk Assessment carried out by: Signature  Position Clerk & RFO Date April 2023

Risk Assessment Validated by all members present of East Ilsley Parish Council at the meeting dated Tuesday 13th May 2025

Signature:  (Chairman)

Risk Assessment Scoring Matrix on next page

Risk Assessment Scoring Matrix

Likelihood	Severity					
	Multiple Death (10)	Single Death (8)	Major Injury (6)	Lost Time Injury (4)	Minor Injury (2)	Delay (1)
Certain (10)	100	80	60	40	20	10
Very Likely (8)	80	64	48	32	16	8
Likely (6)	60	48	36	24	12	6
May Happen (4)	40	32	24	16	8	4
Unlikely (2)	20	16	12	8	4	2
Very Unlikely (1)	10	8	6	4	2	1
Score	Priority	Action				
1 – 16	LOW	Action is required to reduce the risk, although low priority				

17 – 36	MEDIUM	Action required to control. Interim measures may be necessary in the short term
37 – 100	HIGH	Action required urgently to control risks, unacceptable