

Barton Turf Adventure Centre - Risk Assessment

Conservation by Volunteers

Responsible Director:

Sheila Fishwick

Assessment by: S Fishwick	Date: 2 June 2014	Target Date for review:
Approved by: Sheila Fishwick	Date: 14 August 2014	2020

Description of Activity: Any conservation work including but not limited to: Scrub clearance, tree felling, reed cutting, ditch & pond clearance, path clearance, bridge building, and “pioneering” activities.

Frequency As required – NB seasonal restrictions may be in effect. E.g. March-May nesting season

Duration Typically 2 hours sessions – may be more than one session a day

Significant Hazards & Level of Risk	Those who might be harmed	Control Measures(CM’s):	Additional CM’s required? Or Further Action Planned	Residual Rating
General – Inappropriate management of group	Any suffering accidents (High)	See Environmental Activities – General Leaders MUST have first aid training and carry appropriate first aid kits, and radios/mobile phones to enable communication with the Centre. Participants to be briefed on the correct way to use tools. Leaders should monitor tool use and correct any errors. Participants MUST be briefed on the task to perform and the area in which to perform it, and not commence any other task, or move to another area without instruction.	Gloves should be available, and their use encouraged.	Low

Significant Hazards & Level of Risk	Those who might be harmed	Control Measures(CM's):	Additional CM's required? Or Further Action Planned	Residual Rating
General	Children (Medium)	Children performing conservation work MUST be closely supervised, and not assigned tasks that are outside of their capabilities or skillset. A supervisor:pupil ratio of 1:8 is recommended for 10-year olds, falling to 1:4 for 5-year old children. Children must demonstrate knowledge of safe working practice and understanding of the rules outlined before they can use tools, etc.		Low
Carrying tools	Any carrying tools and those near to them (Medium)	Where available, tools should be carried in sheaths or have sharp edges masked Participants should be instructed in the correct way to carry tools, and should not carry more than they can comfortably manage in one hand. Children must be supervised and instructed not to play with tools.		V Low
Ends of cut branches, stumps etc	Anybody walking around the area of work later. (Medium)	Branches should be cut as close as possible to their parent stem to avoid leaving snags. Stumps should be cut as close as possible to the ground to avoid trip hazards and damage to mowing tools. Users should be instructed that if necessary they should make two cuts, one at a comfortable working position and then another at the proper place.		Low
Using secateurs and loppers	Any close to the operation (Medium)	Children using cutting tools to be instructed as to the maximum size of timber they are likely to be able to cut.		Low

Significant Hazards & Level of Risk	Those who might be harmed	Control Measures(CM's):	Additional CM's required? Or Further Action Planned	Residual Rating
Using handsaws	Those using or helping use the tool (Medium)	Persons using saws should wear protective gloves, and be instructed in the safe use of the tool.	Gloves to be available in sufficient numbers and sizes?	Low
Using axes and billhooks	Any in close proximity to the operation (Very High)	Axes & billhooks ONLY to be used by trained persons wearing appropriate footwear etc, and in accordance with recognised safety guidance (3m clear zone etc) No-one should use an axe or billhook whilst wearing glasses unless the glasses are secured to their head so they cannot fall off.		Low
Using Chainsaws and other powered tools	Operators and those nearby (Very High)	Chainsaws etc ONLY to be used by trained or qualified <i>adults</i> , wearing appropriate PPE, and in accordance with recognised safety guidance. See also Chainsaw and Brushcutter Risk Assessments.		Low
Tree felling and branch lopping	Any on whom the timber falls. (High)	Those felling or lopping trees MUST (be instructed to ensure no other person is within 2m of the area in which the timber is likely to fall, and to stop operations if that limit is infringed). ONLY those who have been trained should fell trees/stems of more than 100mm diameter or 2.5m in height. (Of the trees exceeding the diameter above ONLY those specifically identified by the Responsible Director may be felled)		Low

Significant Hazards & Level of Risk	Those who might be harmed	Control Measures(CM's):	Additional CM's required? Or Further Action Planned	Residual Rating
Fires	Any persons close by, and the environment (High)	Fires MUST NOT be lit on the peat. Fires may be lit on protective iron sheets placed over the paths or cut areas. There MUST be a 2m firebreak between any fire and any combustible reed etc. Each fire MUST be supervised at ALL times by a designated responsible adult. Fire buckets full of water MUST be available beside all fires. Material for burning should be stacked neatly outside the firebreak and placed on the fire ONLY under the direction of the responsible adult.	For preference, material for burning should be removed to the campfire circle and burned there.	Low

REVIEWS:

Date of review:	Reviewed by:	Comments:
May 2018	S Fishwick	No changes

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