



MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL

PLAYING FIELD HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY, RISK ASSESSMENT AND INSPECTION PROTOCOL APRIL 2022

Foreword

Middleton St. George Parish Council is responsible for the playing field in Station Road, Middleton St. George.

This policy applies only to the playing field in Station Road, Middleton St. George.

The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 recommends that owners and managers of premises should undertake a risk assessment of their facilities – this includes the playing field.

This document defines and makes clear the duties and responsibilities of Middleton St. George Parish Council as the responsible body for the Playing Field. This also includes a risk assessment setting out the key hazards and the Council's risk mitigation process.

Middleton St George Parish Council Playing Field Management Policy

The purpose of the document is to:

- assess the risks relating to the playing field at Station Road, Middleton St. George
- provide a formal way for the Parish Council to identify and be notified of potentially dangerous equipment within the playing field.

Control measures are then applied to the significant risks where the remaining residual risks are re-scored to ensure all risks are suitably managed and controlled.

This document is based upon guidance from RoSPA.

The Risk Assessment for the Playing Field is given in Appendix 1.

The protocol for weekly inspection of the playing field Appendix 2.

The person responsible for the Playing Field is the Clerk to the Parish Council.

Date of approval of this document

This document was approved by Middleton St. George Parish Council at its meeting held on the 11th April, 2022.

APPENDIX 1 MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT

Activity:	Playing Field	Site:	Station Road Play Area, Middleton St. George
People at Risk:	All users, spectators and members of the public	Additional Information:	

To determine the risk rating, look at the likelihood and the severity of the outcome if the hazard is realised. Assign the rating Low, Medium or High (L, M, H) based on the risk matrix (prior to any control measures being put in place to reduce the risk). The residual risk involves making two judgements, one on the severity of any possible injury and the other on the likelihood of harm occurring.

Type of Injury	Likely	Possible	Remote
Fatality	High	High	Medium
Serious Injury	High	Medium	Medium
Minor Injury	Medium	Low	Low
No Injury	Low	Low	Low

Hazard	Who may be affected and how	Initial Rating (L,M,H)	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk (L,M,H)	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date)
Access to / from site	Players and Officials, spectators and member of the public. Blocked access	L	The area is open to the public. Any blocking of the entranceways must be reported to police asap on 101.	L	
Car Park	Slips, trips, falls, traffic accidents	L	Access to the Car Park is limited to users of the playing field facilities and approved contractors. The car park is secured by a locked gate to prevent unauthorised	L	

Hazard	Who may be affected and how	Initial Rating (L,M,H)	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk (L,M,H)	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date)
			access at all other times. The car park is adequate for occasional use.		The surface requires remedial action to fill / prevent pot holes forming and damaging users vehicles.
Sports Field Condition	Players and officials, spectators and members of the public Injury caused by defect	M	Weekly inspection are carried out by a Parish Councillor. Reports of any problems are made to the Clerk.	L	
Defective ground surfaces eg. potholes causing trips and injury	Players and officials, spectators and members of the public Injury caused by defect	L	Weekly inspection of area by a Parish Councillor. Defects reported to the Clerk who can arrange prompt remedial action.	L	
Snow / ice / wet leaves	Players and officials, spectators and members of the public Slipping & falling	M	It is a public area users' access at their own risk.	L	
Slipping on paths, grass and other surfaces	All Users. Injuries.	L	Weekly inspection of the paths and playing field by ta Parish Councillor. Inspection of the playing field is carried out by the home team using the playing field before each game to see if it is suitable for play or not.	L	
Litter, glass etc.	All Users. Injuries.	M	Litter picking carried out weekly by the Litter Picker.	L	

Hazard	Who may be affected and how	Initial Rating (L,M,H)	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk (L,M,H)	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date)
Hazardous substance / fly tipping and drugs paraphernalia.	All users.	L	Weekly inspections will be carried out by a Parish Councillor. Hirer expected to check conditions and report defects to the Clerk.	L	
Dog excrement	People who come into contact with the faeces. Illness and injury from slipping.	M	Signs permitting dog walking if the dog is on a lead. Safe clearing procedures by the Litter Picker. Safe disposal of collected waste. Notices are displayed reminding dog owners to pick up after dogs, dog bins provided The hirer is asked to inspect playing field prior to use and clean up dog excrement if on the playing field.	L	
First Aid Provision	Users, spectators and members of the public. Injury / accident and illness	M	A defibrillator is available outside the Londis Convenience Shop in The Square for users of the playing field. All incidents of use are reported through the North East Ambulance Service who liaise with the Councillor responsible. Hirers must provide a first aid kit for use during matches on the playing field.	L	
Noise pollution / antisocial behaviour	Neighbouring property owners.	M	The hirer is made aware of their responsibilities for their activities in accordance with the terms and conditions of use and to ensure that disturbance and noise which may affect residents whose properties is kept to a minimum.	L	

Hazard	Who may be affected and how	Initial Rating (L,M,H)	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk (L,M,H)	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date)
Collapsing goal posts	Players and spectators. Injuries.	L	Weekly inspection of stability of the goal posts by a Parish Councillor as part of the inspection of the area. Goal posts are inspected before the start of any game. Annual RoSPA inspection.	L	
Poisonous / thorny plants Skin irritation, scratches etc.	Users and members of the public Illness and injuries.	L	Grounds maintenance procedures including safe disposal where necessary	L	

APPENDIX 2. MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL PROTOCOL FOR WEEKLY INSPECTION OF THE PLAYING FIELD

Date of Inspection.....Person carrying out the inspection.....

SITE, SURFACES & ANCILLARY ITEM	Yes	No	Action Required and when	Work Done		Comments
				Yes	No	
Car Park						
Surface is in good condition and free of tripping or slipping hazards						
Playing Field						
Surface and surrounds are free of litter , glass, dog excrement.						
Surface and surrounds are free of hazardous substance / fly tipping and drugs paraphernalia.						
Surface and surrounds are free of pot holes or worn surfaces which could lead to tripping or slipping hazards						
Goalposts are secure and undamaged and not liable to collapse.						
Seats which are located on the playing field are secure and not liable to collapse.						
Poisonous / thorny plants are not present on the surrounds to the playing field.						