

Longdon Parish Council Risk Assessment Register

1 ORGANISATION

Ref	Risk	Probability	Impact	Policy	Responsible Person	Frequency of review
1.1	Loss of Clerk	High	High	Advertise immediately notice is given Maintain continuity via SPCA details of Locum Clerk service. Access all Council records via emergency procedures.	Council Chairman	Annually
1.2	Loss of RFO	High	High	SPCA assistance to be sought for locum RFO. Chair to temporarily act as RFO	Clerk Chairman	Annually
1.3	Loss of IT data	Low	High	Backup system on a monthly basis following council meeting Anti-virus to be renewed annually	Clerk	Monthly
1.4	Loss of Councillor	Low	Low	Guide to casual vacancy filling document obtained from SPCA.	Clerk	Annually

1.5	Lone / Home Worker	Low	Low	Check that worker has taken all responsible precautions for his/her own safety. Check the worker has proper equipment. Avoid undue time demands that necessitate long unbroken hours.	Chairman Clerk	Annually
1.6	Loss of Electronic support	High	High	Ensure that insurance is up to date on all equipment. Hard drive used for monthly backup	Council Clerk	Monthly

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2 PLANNING

Ref	Risk	Probability	Impact	Policy	Responsible Person	Frequency of review
2.1	Statutory/LDC Plans and Frameworks not met	Medium	Low	Maintain up to date references	Council Clerk	Annually
2.2	Parish Characteristics, aesthetics, neighbourhood impact degenerated	Medium	High	Consider local environmental impact. Maintain predominant features, quantify requirement, consider future plans.	Councillors Council	Monthly
2.3	Disagreement with LDC	Medium	Medium	Ensure proper procedures followed. Collect and record evidence, obey time schedules.	Councillors	Annually
2.4	Enforcement – developers breaching planning application	Medium	Medium	Gather evidence and involve SCC/LDC as appropriate.	Councillors / LDC Councillors	As required

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3 GREEN AND OPEN SPACES

Ref	Risk	Probability	Impact	Policy	Responsible Person	Frequency of review
3.1	Mowing needs not fulfilled	Medium	High	Identify area and schedule clearly. Ensure no obstructions at time required and access available. Ensure contractor fully insured. Contract currently in place and schedule received.	Council	As required
3.2	Damage, injury or poisoning from trees / shrubs	Low	High	Identify trees/shrubs. Advise owner/tenant – if on SCC land consider clearance. Adequate insurance cover.	Council	As required
3.3	Open Areas unsuitable for purpose	Low	High	Keep clear of rubbish and ensure clearance of any unwanted vegetation. Repair any broken, sunken areas or potholes. Mow/strim as required. Repair vandalism and advise police if necessary.	Council	As required
3.4	Incorrect usage of open areas	Low	Low	Signage to clarify use	Council	As required
3.5	Benches	Low	Low	Monitor condition of benches. Take action to repair any faults or remove item if faults are found.	Council	Annual
3.6	Notice Boards	Low	Low	Monitor condition of notice boards. Take action to repair any faults or remove item if faults are found.	Council	Annual

3.7	Finger Posts	Low	Low	Monitor condition of finger posts. Take action to repair any faults or remove item if faults are found.	Council	Annual
3.8	Bus Shelters	Low	Low	Monitor condition of Bus Shelters. Take action to repair any faults or remove item if faults are found.	Council	Annual

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4 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

Ref	Risk	Probability	Impact	Policy	Responsible Person	Frequency of review
4.1	Unsuitable for purpose	Medium	High	Evaluate ditches, bridleways, footpaths and pavements. Report to appropriate authority any faults found.	Council	Annual
4.2	Deterioration of areas	Low	Medium	Encourage discipline on litter, animal excrement. React to walkers feedback.	Council	Annual
4.3	Unclear route marking	Low	Medium	Work through the leaflets to ensure markers are clear and up to date.	Council	Annual
4.4	Falls, slips, damage, entrapment or unwanted access due to fences, stiles or gates	Medium	High	Monitor gateways etc. – no sharp edges, correct step pitch and fastenings. Instruct land owner / tenant to maintain and/or replace.	Council	As required
4.5	Inaccurate promotion of the footpaths	Low	Low	Ensure that maps and walks are up to date and clear. Ensure that they are walked at least once per year to check routes.	Council	Annual

4.6	Floral tubs	Low	Low	Ensure that the tubs are in good condition and well planted to avoid trailing plants and soil creep.	Council	Annual
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5 FINANCIAL AND GENERAL PURPOSES

Ref	Risk	Probability	Impact	Policy	Responsible Person	Frequency of review
5.1	Loss of Council Assets	Medium	Low	Secure storage of Assets. Theft / loss of assets insured for replacement cost. Internal auditor to review asset register and insurance. Clerk to check assets on an annual basis.	Clerk Internal Auditor	Annual

5.2	Theft / Fraud	Low	High	Regular scrutiny by Members of financial records. Proper recording in minutes of all approval for spending and powers under which spend is authorised. Regular budget monitoring by Members. Regular bank reconciliations review by Members. Regular review of financial regulations by Members. Review financial limits on Fidelity insurance to cash balances. Review of letter of appointment for Internal Auditor to include areas of risk – VAT, PAYE, cheque signing, adequacy of invoicing, powers and council income. Review of effectiveness of internal Auditors report. Council approval for changes to payroll authority.	Council Internal Auditor	Six Months
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5.3	Noncompliance with Standing Orders.	Low	Low	Regular scrutiny of Standing Orders by Members. Scrutiny of Standing Orders by Internal Auditor.	Council Internal Auditor	Annual
5.4	Injury / loss to recipient of Council asset	Low	Low	Public liability insurance indemnity of £5million. Regular scrutiny of insurance by Members. Emergency policy to delegate authority to clerk to commit finances without prior approval of Council in emergency situation. Policy written re volunteers working for council with forms to be completed by volunteer / council.	Council Clerk	Annual

5.5	Loss of Income	Low	Low	Regular budget monitoring by Members to ascertain income. Cash Book reconciliation monitoring by Members. Annual monitoring of income stream levels (Longdon Life adverts etc.) Authority for Clerk/RFO to transfer funds between accounts.	Council Clerk	Annual
5.6	Propriety – Councillor abuse of position	Low	Low	Maintain register of interest and question as each topic arises. Gifts and hospitality to be declared. Code of Conduct signed by council. Reviewed and covered in Standing Orders.	Council Clerk	Annual
5.7	Loss or unexpected reduction of income	Low	High	All expenditure pre budgeted and sufficiently resourced.	Council Clerk	Annual
5.8	Cash Security	Low	Low	Do not hold cash. Two signatories of all payments by cheque. Receipts for all transactions. Safe custody of documentation with the Clerk.	Council	Annual
5.9	Inadequate insurance	Low	Low	Assess risk to assets and to liabilities. Determine and record which risks to be accepted. Use established UK based insurance company, securely underwritten.	Council	Annual
5.10	Abuse of expenses	Low	Low	Prior sanction of all expenses. Repayment against receipts only.	Council	Annual

5.11	Budget too low/high	Low	Low	Use historic data and work to and agreed forecast programme. Work to realistic estimates or accurate quotes. Use budget to set precept.	Council	Annual
5.12	Problems with contracts	Medium	Medium	Ensure full tender documentation in place to get quotes. Agree price and costs before setting the contract. Council to consider unforeseen work prior to work taking place. Agree stage payments if necessary. Ensure contractors are fully insured prior to starting the work.	Council	Annual

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6 DEMOCRATIC

Ref	Risk	Probability	Impact	Policy	Responsible Person	Frequency of review
6.1	Defamation	Low	High	Libel and Slander Insurance of £250,000. Members to periodically undergo Code of Conduct training. Members all have copy of code of conduct.	Clerk Council	Annual
6.2	Compliance with Code of Conduct	Low	High	Completion of signed acceptance of office to abide by the Council Code of Conduct. Annual review of Members interests.	Council	Annual
6.3	Representation Outside Bodies	Low	Low	Council to review financial risks from decisions made by outside bodies in which it has members. Council to ensure that members of Charity Trusts review individual actions in line with Charity Commissioners website.	Council	Annual
6.4	Inaccurate minutes	Low	Low	Drafts to be approved by Chair prior to being sent to all councillors. Minutes to be approved at next meeting.	Chair Clerk	Annual
6.5	Loss of minutes	Low	Low	Electronic backing up of all minutes to Cloud and/or hard drive	Clerk	Annual
6.6	Deficient Standing Orders	Low	Low	Standing orders to be reviewed once a year by Full Council.	Council Clerk	Annual

6.7	Image of the Council	Low	Low	Put out a Parish News as required following full council to advise of actions of council. Copy to be sent to contact for main press. Clerk to update the website with information at least monthly.	Councillors	Annual
6.8	Business of the parish council	Low	Low	Ensure council is quorate at full council. Ensure documentation is published to standard timescales.	Councillors/Clerk	Annual
6.9	Venues for Meetings	Low	Low	Ensure that venues are accessible and appropriate for intended use. Ensure that fire drill and fire escapes are mentioned at beginning of each meeting.	Chair/Clerk	Annual

Signed:

Chair: Brendan Cooper

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Approved 13th January 2026