

Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalen Parish Council

Cemetery Risk Assessment

clerk@magdalen.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Activity	Potential hazards	What risks do they pose	Control measures	Risk level High (H), Medium (M), Low (L)	Are additional measures necessary?
Driving – lawn mowers, hearses or mechanised digging equipment	Traffic accidents	Injury to operatives/consistent with this type of incident or members of the public	Only authorised vehicles allowed in the cemetery (i.e. Contractors or Funeral Directors)	L	Contractors or Funeral Directors will be liable for their own risk assessment to protect their employees and members of the public
Operating equipment (inc. grass and hedge cutting)	Fire/operating accidents	Injury to operatives/burns/cuts/foreign bodies in eyes/smoke inhalation/ingestion	The Parish Council ensures they employ reliable and competent Contractors	L	Contractors or Funeral Directors will be liable for their own risk assessment to protect their employees
Operating equipment	Fire/operating accidents	Injury to members of public/burns/cuts/foreign bodies in eyes/smoke inhalation/ingestion	The Parish Council ensures the use of experienced Funeral Directors	L	Contractors or Funeral Directors will be liable for their own risk assessment to protect their employees and members of the public
Excavations/ground works	Falling/tripping injuries to back, sprains, strains, musculoskeletal injuries, cuts and bruises	Injury to members of the public and employees of Funeral Directors	The Parish Council ensures the use of experienced Funeral Directors	L	Funeral Directors will be liable for their own Health & Safety measures

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Grave digging	Infectious disease control	Infection of employees of Funeral Directors	The Parish Council ensures they employ reliable and competent Contractors	L	Funeral Directors will be liable for their own Health & Safety measures
Funeral	Greeting funeral party	Injury to members of funeral party – back injuries, sprains, strains, musculoskeletal injuries	The Parish Council ensures they employ reliable and competent Contractors	L	Funeral Directors will be liable for their own Health & Safety measures
Memorial Inspection	Cuts, bruises, crush injuries	Injury to members of the public, contractors or funeral directors employees	Once every 5 years memorials are hand checked to ensure stability. Memorials that are unstable will be laid down and the family notified in order that they can arrange refixing.	M	Parish Council will ensure their freelance handy man has the correct training

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Grave and row markers	Tripping causing bruises, sprains, musculoskeletal injuries	Injury to members of the public, contractors or funeral directors employees	Grass cut on a regular basis to ensure that all kerbs are visible	M	Regular inspection by Parish Handyman
Weedkilling	Chemical burns/breathing problems	Injury to contractors and members of the public	The Parish Council ensures they employ reliable and competent Contractors	L	Contractors will be liable for their own COSHH assessment

Updated March 2026