

FPC 8/7/2026 Meeting Documents

Risk Assessment – Volunteers Groundworks

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROL
Tools, & Equipment (Hand & Powered) e.g. strimmers, chainsaw	Injury to self or others	Volunteers to be responsible for the safety and maintenance of their own tools. Powered tools to only be used by those qualified to do so or at the individuals own risk. Personal Protective Equipment to be worn at all times. Powered tools should not be used in isolation (a second person should always be on site to maximise safety of self and others around). Working area to be clearly signed.
Public Highway/Traffic	Risk of injury/fatality from moving traffic. Damage to vehicles.	Ensure when getting in and out of vehicles it is safe to do so. Safe parking of vehicle. Safe driving; within speed limit, wear seat belts. Safe loading and unloading plus securing the load. All collection/disposal should be carried out in daylight. Always be aware of traffic movements, including farm plant. Always be aware of members of the public and volunteers. Wear high vis vest when walking near the highway.
Slips, Trips or Falls	Risk of injury as result of slips, trips or falls.	Always wear appropriate footwear. Take care when walking on uneven ground, especially when carrying a load.

Manual Handling	Strains, pulled/torn muscles/ligaments.	Reduce walking distance to vehicle with load. Identify when help is needed due to excessive weight of load >25kg Ensure good practice when manually lifting, carrying, a load.
Environmental & Biological Hazards	Bites/Cuts leading to infection Poisoning, skin irritations or allergic reactions from plants. Exposure to animal waste or airborne diseases. Infection from bacteria or hazardous substance/materials.	Volunteers are personally responsible for keeping their Tetanus up to date and recognising the symptoms of Weil's disease and Lyme disease. First Aid Kit to be available. Beware of dangerous plants and their possible adverse reactions. All volunteers should wear gloves. Wash hands frequently. All volunteers should wear gloves and PPE equipment where provided should be used correctly. Maintain high standards of hygiene. Wash hands frequently. Do not handle items you suspect could be contaminated with a hazardous substance/material.
Weather Conditions	Risk of injury from ground due to weather conditions. Dehydration, hypothermia, sunburn, sunstroke, injury from dislodged vegetation/branches.	Ensure suitable clothing and footwear are worn for terrain and weather conditions. Avoid sunburn through sun exposure. If weather conditions are severe, do not proceed with task.
Waste Disposal	Potential of waste not being disposed of, or stored, in the correct manner.	Waste to be stored in a designated area so as not to obstruct public highways, public right of ways, or pedestrian access. Disposal of waste to be in accordance with local guidelines.