



Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe & Acresford Parish Council

Health & Safety Policy – The Orchard Allotment Site

1. Introduction

Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe & Acresford Parish Council is committed to providing a safe environment for all allotment users. Under the Occupiers' Liability Act 1957, we have a duty of care to plot holders, visitors, volunteers, and contractors. This policy outlines responsibilities, risk management, and emergency procedures.

2. Responsibilities

- Parish Council: Responsible for the safety of communal areas and overall site management.
- Plot Holders: Must maintain their plots safely, store tools and chemicals securely, and keep paths clear.
- Visitors & Volunteers: Must follow site safety rules.
- Children: Must be supervised at all times.

3. Risk Assessments

- Conducted twice per year (summer and winter).
- Cover the entire site, including communal areas and plots.
- Findings documented and remedial actions assigned.
- Common hazards include slips/trips, broken glass, sharp tools, unsafe structures, and vermin.

4. Site Safety Rules

- No bonfires on site.
- Fuel storage is prohibited.
- Compost and manure must be covered and secure.
- Gates, fencing, and structures must be maintained.
- Remove broken glass and refuse promptly.
- No livestock to be kept on site.
- Water storage must use proper water butts.

5. Emergency Procedures

- In case of fire or serious accident: Call 999.
- Evacuate to the designated Rendezvous Point- drive entrance to Donisthorpe Hall.
- Ensure everyone on your plot is accounted for.
- Report incidents to the Parish Council immediately.
- Emergency contact details will be posted on the site noticeboard.

6. Training & Awareness

- Plot holders will be informed of risk assessments and safety updates via noticeboards.
- Occasional training sessions may be offered on safe gardening practices.

7. Enforcement

- Compliance monitored through risk assessments.
- Hazards must be remedied promptly.
- Failure to comply may result in warnings and, ultimately, termination of tenancy.

8. Environmental Considerations

- Avoid harm to wildlife and pollution of soil or water.
- Dispose of hazardous materials responsibly.

By following this policy, we aim to create a safe, welcoming, and environmentally responsible allotment site for all users.

