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CHERITON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL OPEN SPACES RISK ASSESSMENT 2026

Hazard	People at Risk	Risk Score H/M/L	Controls
Paths – slips, trips	Public	L	Visual inspections by Councillors. Councillors encouraged to report slip/trip hazards to clerk. Prompt response to observed hazards. Damage repaired as soon as practical or immediately if a serious hazards. Quarterly inspection by Council
Grass areas – holes	Public	L	Grass areas inspected when grass is cut and holes back filled. Reports to PC members responded to quickly. Contractors asked to report holes immediately when seen.
Trees – falling branches, tree falling	Damage to people and property	L	Annual programme of maintenance. Regular inspection by arboriculturist and record kept. Contractors asked to keep eyes open and report any sign of damage. PC members/public encouraged to report damaged trees.
Fixed furniture – bus shelters, benches, dog and litter bins	Injury to public	L	Benches to be fixed to ground. Visual checks by councillors. Contractors asked to keep eyes open and report any sign of damage. Quarterly check by Councillor. Litter and dog bins firmly fixed to ground. All bins emptied regularly
Moveable furniture - picnic benches	Injury to public	L	Visual checks by councillors. Quarterly check by councillor. All damage seen reported and repaired asap.

Posts, markers, low fences	Possible risk of object injuring public. Trip hazards	L	Ensure all objects are firmly fixed. Quarterly check by councillor
Walls/fences	Injury to public/employees due to poor maintenance	L	Visual checks by councillors. Quarterly inspection by councillors. Ensure public know how to report defects. Rapid response when repairs are needed.
Gates	Injury to public, especially hand/finger injury if catches are faulty	L	Visual checks by councillors. Quarterly inspection by councillors. Ensure public know how to report defects. Rapid response when repairs are needed.
Darkness	Trips/falls	L	Ensure lighting on well used paths/areas is good and working. Ensure public know how to report faults. Rapid response to reported faults.
Dog fouling	Public	L	Contractors to be aware. Ensure public now how to report. Educate public through articles in newsletter and clear signs
Drug use	Injury to public from sharps	L	Contractors to be advised of safe working procedures to deal with sharps and provided with appropriate safety equipment if required. Police to be informed of incidents. Prompt response to reports by public.

Signed Chair..... Date of next review – April 2026