

Ref RABPC003	Review date	Owner
2024	01/05/2025	Buckden Parish Council
Document Title:		
Grass Cutting Strimmer/Brushcutter Risk Assessment RA002		

Ref No: RABPC003						
Activity:	Grass Cutting – Strimmer / Brushcutter			Assessment By:		
Activity	Hazards	Who might be harmed	Risk Level (H, M, L)	Controls	Residual Risk Level (H, M, L)	Comments
Use of Strimmer / Brushcutter	Personal Injury	Operatives	H	Training. Correct PPE to be worn, First Aid Kit to be available in vehicle near to this tool. Strimmer never to be left unattended. Be aware of the general public. Stop strimming if members of the public approach the working area.	M	Only use trained operatives Should specific reference be made as to the PPE needed e.g. face guard, ear defenders, footwear and protection for legs
Use of Strimmer / Brushcutter	Flying Debris	Other operatives / public	M	Check before using strimmer / bushcutter and remove any loose debris from it. Check area for stones or other material and remove. Strimming to be carried out with back towards traffic where and when it is safe to do so Remain vigilant to the presence of members of the public at all times. Eye protection MUST be worn at all times during this operation.	L	Use only trained operatives.

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Grass Cutting Strimmer/Brushcutter Risk Assessment RA002		

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Activity	Hazards	Who might be harmed	Risk Level (H, M, L)	Controls	Residual Risk Level (H, M, L)	Comments
				Ensure works are clearly signed for the benefit of the public.		
Use of Strimmer / Brushcutter	Striking of hidden objects, stones, manhole covers etc.	Staff, operatives and general public	H	Visual check of area for any stones, raised manhole covers, old posts etc.	L	
Damaging surface laid electricity cables / communication cables with Strimmer / Brushcutter	Electric Shock, burns, fatality / Disconnection of services	Operatives	H	Visual check of area for surface laid / shallow services prior to carrying out grass cutting works. All exposed cables to be reported to the appropriate stats company immediately.	L	Report all unburied cables immediately to the Supervisor for reporting to the appropriate statutory or utility company.
On site maintenance of Strimmer / Brushcutter	Entrapment, hit by moving parts.	Operatives	H	Ensure motor is fully closed down and the engine given time to cool. Use only trained operatives to change blades, pull cords or plugs. Place machine on firm level surface.	L	Ensure proper tools are used. Should there be reference to general maintenance / servicing?

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Use of Strimmer / Brushcutter	Unauthorised use	Staff, operatives and general public	M	Strimmer never to be left unattended.	L	
Use of Strimmer / Brushcutter	Noise	Operatives	H	Mandatory wearing of ear defenders for operatives. Job rotation by trained operatives only.	L	
		General public	M	Reduce exposure by physical distancing if possible.	L	
Use of Strimmer / Brushcutter	Vibration	Operatives	H	Equipment to be properly maintained. Job rotation by trained operatives only. Reduce exposure. Gloves to be worn.	M	Operatives to be assessed for maximum trigger time and/or full body vibration and exposure reduced as necessary.

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Fuelling Machine	Fire, Explosion	Staff, operatives, general public & Environment	H	Only use trained operatives. No smoking. Fuel to be in proper container and stored away from sources of ignition. Use funnel or proper nozzle when pouring. Clean up spills immediately using dry spill granules & dispose of them appropriately. Ensure Fire Extinguisher is available nearby.	M	No refuelling to take place in the vicinity of forms of ignition. Fuel to be stored in secure place away from direct sunlight and sources of ignition. Operatives to be briefed on safe fuelling of machines.

Version Control Record

Version	Date	Author	Reason for update
V1	20 May 2020	GP and The Clerk	Annual Review

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V2	4 May 2021	Clerk	Yearly review
V3	10 May 2022	Clerk	Yearly Review
V3.1	April 2024 DRAFT	Clerk & VM Advisory Group	Review against current actual working practices

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