



Bradfield Parish Council Cemetery Risk Assessment

Adopted : **5th May 2026**

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) Contractors	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 Funeral Directors	Fire/operating accidents	Injury to members of public/burns/cuts/foreign bodies in eyes/smoke inhalation/ingestion	The Parish Council requires Clients use 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 requires Clients use experienced Funeral Directors	L	Funeral Directors will be liable for their own Health & Safety measures

Grave digging	Infectious disease control	Infection of employees of Funeral Directors	The Parish Council ensures Proper guidelines / cemetery regulations are in place	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 Proper guidelines / cemetery regulations are in place	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	Memorials are inspected as part of a programme and checked to ensure stability Memorials that are unstable will be temporarily secured and/or made safe and the family notified in order that they can arrange refixing.	M	Parish Council will ensure their clerk or contractor has the correct training
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 / markers are visible	M	Regular inspection by Parish Clerk
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

Cemetery Gates	Trapping fingers in hinges, tripping, cuts, bruises, crush injuries	Injury to members of the public, contractors or funeral directors employees	Clerk to check gate is in good working order	L	Regular Inspection by Parish Clerk
Benches	Tripping causing bruises, sprains, musculoskeletal injuries	Injury to members of the public, contractors or funeral directors employees	Benches are to be checked annually to ensure stability	L	Annual Inspection by Parish Clerk
Trees	Overgrown / falling branches / diseased / dead tree	Injury to contractors, funeral directors, grave diggers, members of the public	Annual tree survey carried out	M	Professional tree surgeon employed to carry out annual survey
Hedges	Overgrown	Injury to contractors, funeral directors, grave diggers, members of the public	Annual hedge cutting carried out	M	Contractor carrying out annual hedge cutting
Bins	Overflowing rubbish / bins falling over causing injury	Injury to contractors, funeral directors, grave diggers, members of the public	Bins are to be checked regularly to ensure stability, bins to be emptied regularly	L	Regular Inspection by Parish Clerk Regular emptying by District Council
Cemetery Shingle Path	Trip hazards	Injury to contractors, funeral directors, grave diggers, members of the public	Path to be checked regularly for trip hazards	L	Regular Inspection by Parish Clerk
Cemetery Land Project	Trip hazards Machinery at work	Injury to contractors, members of the public	Contractor to be fully advised of requirements and provide council with PLI.	M	Clerk to liaise with contractors to ensure competent work progress.

Next Review – May 2027