

ST MARY'S CHURCH ORLINGBURY

RISK ASSESSMENT: BELL RINGING

Those at risk: Bell Ringers, Contractors, Visitors to the Bell Tower

Hazards/Risk	Existing Controls	Likelihood	Severity	Risk rating	Additional Controls
Trips or falls on staircase or in ringing room and bell chamber	Monthly maintenance check to ensure there are no hazards and access is clear	1	1	1	
Lighting failing in Bell tower when occupied	Emergency torches kept in ringing chamber and checked monthly to ensure they work	1	2	2	Installation of emergency lighting?
Being locked in	Keyholders check belltower before locking door and are last out	1	2	2	Keyholders should be reminded of risk
Cutting, injuring oneself whilst bell ringing or just in bell tower	First Aid kit in Ringing room Annual maintenance check to ensure up to date	1	2	2	Is the first aid kit as recommended for bell ringers?
Accident or sudden illness in bell tower	First Aid kit in Ringing room Bell ringers bring mobile phones	1	2	2	How would patient be removed from the ringing room and down the tower? Do you have a First Aider amongst the ringers?
Carrying out maintenance on	Two people must be	1	1	1	

bells, fittings and bell frame	present when work undertaken				
Putting on muffles	Two people must be present when work undertaken	1	1	1	
Teaching novices and new bell ringers	Experienced bell ringers only may instruct Strict instructions given verbally and in writing on how to handle a bell Strict code of behaviour maintained in bell tower and given in writing to all ringers	1	1	1	
Fire in the tower	Written fire procedures in tower and regular fire practices Fire fighting equipment in tower, which is maintained annually Access to roof kept clear Bell ringers bring mobile phones	1	2	2	How would you get out? Is it worth having visit from Fire Brigade? Are there smoke alarms?
Threatening approach by another person with theft, damage or harm in mind		1	2	2	How would you know if an outsider was coming up the stairs?

Electrical shock from appliances	Regular PAT testing	1	2	2	Equipment brought to tower by volunteers should be PAT tested
Behaviour of visitors to bell tower	<p>Visitors given bell tower behaviour code before entering</p> <p>Number of visitors limited to XX at any one time</p> <p>At least two adult, experienced ringers present</p> <p>Visitors not allowed to ring bells or touch equipment</p>	1	2	2	

Comment: The risks appear to be low. Contractors would have their own arrangements, but potential hazards must be checked regularly. People visiting on their own should be encouraged to carry a mobile telephone and to tell someone else where they are.

Date agreed by PCC:

Review date:

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RISK ASSESSMENT RATING

1 Likelihood

The likelihood of something happening can be graded as:

- 1 = Low (seldom)
- 2 = Medium (frequently)
- 3 = High (certain or near certain)

2 Severity

The severity of injury if something does happen can be graded as:

- 1 = Low (minor cuts and bruises)
- 2 = Medium (serious injury or incapacity for 3 days or more)
- 3 = High (fatality or number of persons injured)

3 Risk rating

Multiply likelihood x severity to give a risk rating

- 1 – 2 = low priority – no action may be required
- 3 – 4 = medium priority – additional controls may be necessary
- 6 – 9 = high priority – may need to stop activity until action taken