

## **HORSTED KEYNES BOULES GROUP (THE GROUP)**

### **Risk Assessment.**

Introduction. The owners of Horsted Keynes Village Green are The Horsted Keynes Parish Council who have in general meeting resolved to allow the group to construct and thereafter use for recreation a boules court in a position previously agreed between the parties

The said Council has recommended that the group should undertake a risk assessment of their facilities -

Purpose

The purpose of risk assessment is to:

- undertake a systematic review of the potential for harm
- evaluate the likelihood of harm occurring.

When this is done the Group has to:

- decide whether the existing control measures are adequate
- decide whether more needs to be done

**Undertaken by.....Peter Richard Vince.....**

**Checked by Barry Sidney Jennings.....**

### **Emergency contact**

An emergency mobile phone is kept by a nominated individual from the Group and the number made known to all users of the boules court groups and occasional users in accordance with risk assessment recommendations. I. Alternatively the landline of The Green Man Public house will allow call to be made and received on 01825790656 Practice and matches will only be played during licencing hours.

**Access to / from the boules court is across the said village green which is a public open space accessible by all In addition the court is only 3 metres from the public highway with no obstruction between.**

**Electricity - No risk. The court is not served by electricity and no electric power will be utilised**

Emergency lighting and fire risk No risk. The game will be played in hours of daylight only . No combustible items will be used or placed on or beside the court

**First Aid Provision – Low The game of boules is a game involving a minimal risk of injury**

**The players stand behind a start line and the boules when played do not pose any risk to players. Others may not stand on the court whilst a game is in progress**

However, an appropriate first aid kit is located in the public house, together with an accident reporting book. All incidences / copy of the accident report should be reported / given to the an officer of the group with no delay. They in turn will advise insurers and the council.

The Group are instructed to not use the court except during licencing hours.

**Food Hygiene - Nil Any food consumed in or around the court will have been acquired from the public house which maintains the usual insurance cover**

**Hazardous Substances (CoSHH) -Nil risk. None require to be used**

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Maintenance of court and surrounds : The grass surrounding the court is and will at all times be maintained by the council. The surface of the court being fine loose gravel over a hard packed sand base will need no more than raking and brushing when required. Nil risk.

**Heights - Low**

Adjacent to the court is a metal stay supporting an electricity supply pole. If required by the council a high visibility marker will be suspended at head height from the said stay during times that the court is used. Risk. Low.

**Lone Working - or playing Low Boules is a competitive pastime and involves more than one player. The construction of the court will take place by teams of workers from the group and the groundwork by a professional insured company, Sweeping the court in the future is believed to be a low risk exercise.**

**Noise pollution - Low**

Apart from the occasions despairing or jubilant cries of contestants and very occasional ripples of applause no noise pollution is anticipated.

**Slipping, Tripping, Falling - Low**

The court is designed and will be constructed with no trip hazard and will be well maintained and cleaned, If narrow poles are laid alongside the court to prevent boules entering the highway they will comprise a low risk tripping hazard as they will be visible and obvious. Risk Low.

### **Play Area - Medium risk**

The play area will be a purpose built exterior facility for use by group members and their guests/opponents. Non members of the group will be required to complete a form disclosing their names and address and containing a statement that they and their guests play entirely at their own risk.

Risk of damage to third parties. Medium Boules are round metal items weighing about half a kilo. They are capable of misuse(as is a half brick) but as stated when thrown during a game they could overrun the court area. There are at least 20 metres of open village green at either end of the court for such overruns, The public highway is about 3 metres longitudinally from the court Low risk of injury to persons or vehicles unless played with stupidity The group will place small diameter wooden poles on the highway side of the court when a match is in progress Risk therefore LOW

The village green and surrounding area is frequently used by dog walkers who are encouraged to remove any dog faeces. There are appropriate bins and signs provided. The area is checked on a daily / regular basis by group members and any issues reported and actioned promptly.

**Transport (vehicles) –LOW** Access to the car park of the public house will be gained by users unless prohibited by the licencees The car park is large and adequate. The surface is regularly maintained to fill / prevent pot holes forming.

### **Vandalism - Low**

The playing area will be accessible by the public and vandalism could cause damage but no risk to users as any such damage will be fully apparent

**Weather extremes – Likely to happen / low risk**

During extreme weather water could puddle on the surface of the court. This would involve no risk to any person unless it froze over which would be apparent and obvious.

**Monitor and re-assess the risks.**

All parties involved in the preparation and implementation of this risk assessment will be made aware of their responsibilities and this risk assessment will be fully reviewed at at least 6 monthly intervals and whenever an incident provides evidence that a re-appraisal is necessary.

Signed by

Date