

LYTHE PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT GRASS CUTTING/STRIMMING		
Hazard/Potential Risk	People at risk	Controls
Improper use of equipment - damage to eyes, ears.	Operative	Everyone involved in grass cutting must wear suitable strong footwear, ideally steel toe capped boots/shoes, ear defenders, visors and/or goggles, protective gloves and overalls. Equipment fitted with appropriate safety cut-off switches. All equipment must be properly maintained and suitable for use.
Stones/glass/cans thrown up - potential lacerations.	Operative, general public	Ideally stone guards should be fitted to equipment. Check area for glass/stones/cans and remove before cutting grass. No members of public within 30 feet of equipment when in use.
Vibration - hand injury.	Operative	Equipment serviced/maintained at appropriate periods. Operative to wear appropriate gloves as relevant. Operatives not to use strimmer for more than 1 hour at any one time.
Noise - injury to hearing.	Operative	Ensure ear defenders are worn when equipment is in use.
Slips/trips – falls.	Operative, general public	Sweep footpath to remove the any grass cuttings. Grass cuttings etc., to be disposed of safely to eliminate trip/slip hazard.
Contact with pollen, dust, grass etc. - allergic reaction	Operative	Use filter masks if required, particularly during periods of high pollen count.
Dog faeces disturbed by equipment - disease.	Operative	Land inspected prior to use of equipment and faeces removed using appropriate gloves/equipment.
Clearing blockages – potential lacerations.	Operative	Mowers/trimmer's fitted with safety cut off devices. Operatives wear safety gloves/goggles. Ensure that equipment is switched off prior to inspection.
Refilling mower/trimmer with fuel mixture - skin and eye irritations.	Operative	Rubber gloves used when refilling. Ensure hands are washed thoroughly.
Adverse weather.	Operative	Ensure that grass cutting/trimming is carried out during suitable weather conditions i.e., not whilst raining/lightning or electrical storms.
High temperatures Heat exhaustion Dehydration Sunburn.	Operative	Have good access to water and take breaks as necessary. Hats worn in sunny conditions. Long-sleeved shirts in sunny conditions. Sunblock used if particularly sensitive.
Poor visibility	Operative	Wear a high visibility waistcoat at all times.