

# Checking Grave Stones / Memorials risk Assessment



**Location** Great Blakenham Lawn Cemetery & St Marys Churchyard

**Organized By** Great Blakenham Parish Council

**Date** July 2025

**Review Date** July 2026

**Purpose** Inspection and assessment of grave stones and memorials for stability and damage

## 1. Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed	Potential Harm	Initial Risk	Control Measures	Residual Risk
Unstable or loose memorials falling	Inspectors, visitors	Crushing injuries, fractures, bruising	High	- Do not attempt to move heavy stones alone- Use specialist tools/equipment- Only trained personnel to conduct inspections- Mark unstable memorials clearly and cordon off areas if needed	Low
Trips and slips on uneven ground or vegetation	Inspectors, visitors	Sprains, fractures, cuts	Medium	- Wear sturdy footwear- Clear vegetation before inspection- Walk carefully and maintain awareness	Low
Manual handling of stones, tools	Inspectors	Muscle strains, back injuries	Medium	- Use correct lifting techniques- Use mechanical aids or ask for help with heavy objects	Low
Weather conditions (rain, frost, heat)	Inspectors	Slips, heat exhaustion, cold injuries	Medium	- Check weather forecast and dress accordingly- Postpone inspections in poor weather- Take breaks and stay hydrated	Low
Insect bites, animal waste, plants (e.g. nettles)	Inspectors	Allergic reactions, infections	Low	- Wear gloves and long sleeves- Use insect repellent- Avoid known hazards	Low
Public interference or visitors	Inspectors, visitors	Distracted workers, potential accidents	Low	- Work during low visitor times if possible- Use signage to warn visitors of inspection activity	Very Low
Use of tools (hammers, probes)	Inspectors	Cuts, bruises, impact injuries	Medium	- Use tools properly and maintain in good condition- Wear gloves and eye protection if needed	Low

## **2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

- Sturdy boots or safety footwear
  - Gloves (cut-resistant)
  - Hi-vis vest (if near roads or paths)
  - Eye protection (if using tools)
  - Long sleeves and trousers
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## **3. Emergency Procedures**

- Carry first aid kit on site
  - Mobile phone for emergency contact
  - Report any injuries or hazards immediately to Parish Council
  - Stop work immediately if unsafe conditions arise
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