

COMMUNITY ORCHARD GREENSIDE

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Policy Statement and Purpose

The Board of Trustees of Community Orchard Greenside (COG) aim to provide a safe environment for visitors to the Orchard site and for volunteers involved in work parties, events and other activities managed by COG. The Board believes that no one should encounter avoidable safety incidents, or be exposed to avoidable health risks whilst visiting the site.

Policy

- An insurance policy will be taken out annually to cover public liability and accident cover for all volunteers.
- Risk assessments/duty of care assessments will be prepared before any organised volunteer tasks and events on the site.
- Two members of the group will have current first aid training and at least one member, supplied with a first aid box, will be present at organised volunteer tasks and events.
- There will be no tipping or storage of materials in the Orchard
- No chemicals of any kind, including pesticides and herbicides, will be used in the Orchard.
- Members of the group will refrain from using motorised power tools unless trained to do so and then only whilst wearing the correct personal protective clothing and equipment and using the equipment correctly and safely in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and being adequately covered by the correct insurance.
- Bonfires are not allowed in the Orchard. At wassailing we will use a fire pit which will be supervised by at least two adults at all times. Fire pits will not be allowed at any other time, except by specific written permission.
- The Working at Height Regulations 2005 will be complied with and long-handled tools and hard hats will be provided for pruning work at a height.
- Organisations using the Orchard must provide appropriate adult supervision when children, young people or youth/school groups are using the Orchard.
- Parents or carers have the sole responsibility for their children whilst they are in the Orchard.
- Work in the Orchard will only be carried out in daylight and during social hours.
- No shooting, poisoning or trapping of wildlife will be allowed on the Orchard site.
- All reasonable precautions will be taken to protect fruit trees from damage, vandals or theft
- Entrances and paths will be kept clear.

- Trustees on duty during organised volunteer tasks and events in the Orchard will carry mobile phones, so they are able to direct emergency services to the site.
- Trustees who undertake Orchard management and who wish to use specialist power tools will attend appropriate courses to obtain the relevant certification, or a specialist will be engaged to do the work.

Policy adopted at COG meeting held on

Signed

Chair of the Board of Trustees