#### **COVID-19 Risk Assessment for re-opening Village and Community Halls – July 2020**

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#### **Important Notes:**

- 1. The COVID-19 Risk Assessment may need to be updated in the light of any new government advice that may be forthcoming.
- 2. This document should be read in conjunction with relevant legislation and guidance issued by government and local authorities. (Links to some key documents are provided in the reference section)
- 3. This document is not intended to be comprehensive and ACRE cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions, factual or otherwise, arising from reliance on it. It is not a substitute for independent professional and/or legal advice.

The potential mitigations are in three categories colour coded as follows:

Red – Actions based on Government advice (i.e. should be considered mandatory)

Orange - Actions that are strongly recommended

Green - Actions that you might like to consider

Area or People at Risk	Risk identified	Actions to take to mitigate risk	Insert Date completed and any notes.
Staff, contractors and volunteers — Identify what work activity or situations might cause transmission of the virus and likelihood staff could be exposed	Cleaning surfaces infected by people carrying the virus. Disposing of rubbish containing tissues and cleaning cloths. Deep cleaning premises if someone falls ill with CV-19 on the premises. Occasional Maintenance workers.	Stay at home guidance if unwell at entrance and in Main Hall. Staff/volunteers provided with protective overalls and plastic or rubber gloves. Contractors provide their own. Staff/volunteers advised to wash outer clothes after cleaning duties. Staff given PHE guidance and PPE for use in the event deep cleaning is required.	Staff/volunteers may need guidance as to cleaning. For example, cloths should be used on light switches and electrical appliances rather than spray disinfectants, rubberised and glued surfaces can become damaged by use of spray disinfectant too frequently.

Staff, contractors and volunteers— think about who could be at risk and likelihood staff/volunteers could be exposed.	Staff/volunteers who are either extremely vulnerable or over 70. Staff or volunteers carrying out cleaning, caretaking or some internal maintenance tasks could be exposed if a person carrying the virus has entered	Staff in the vulnerable category are advised not to attend work for the time being.  Discuss situation with staff/volunteers over 70 to identify whether provision of protective clothing and	Staff and volunteers will need to be warned immediately if someone is tested positive for COVID-19 who has been on the premises.  Details of a person's medical condition must be kept confidential, unless the
	the premises or falls ill.  Mental stress from handling the new situation.	cleaning surfaces before they work is sufficient to mitigate their risks, or whether they should cease such work for the time being.  Provide screen for any reception office.	employee/volunteer agrees it can be shared.  It is important people know they can raise concerns.
		Talk with staff, trustees and volunteers regularly to see if arrangements are working.	
Car Park/paths/ patio/exterior areas	Social distancing is not observed as people congregate before entering premises. Parking area is too congested to allow social distancing. People drop tissues.	Signage to show a 2metre waiting area outside all potential entrances to encourage care when queueing to enter. Cleaner asked to check area outside doors for rubbish which might be contaminated, e.g. tissues. Wear plastic gloves and remove.	Transitory lapses in social distancing in outside areas are less risky, the main risk is likely to be where people congregate or for vulnerable people. Ordinary litter collection arrangements can remain in place. Provide plastic gloves.

Entrance hall/lobby/corridors	Possible "pinch points" and busy areas where risk is social distancing is not observed in a confined area.  Door handles, light switches in frequent use.	Identify "pinch points" and busy areas. Signage to remind people of social distancing. Create one- way system when necessary. Door handles and light switches to be cleaned regularly. Hand sanitiser to be provided by hall	Hand sanitiser needs to be checked daily. Provide more bins, in entrance hall, each meeting room. Empty regularly.
Main Hall	Door handles, light switches, window catches, tables, chair backs and arms.	Door handles, light switches, window catches, tables, chairs and other equipment used to be cleaned by hirers	
	Soft furnishings which cannot be readily cleaned between use. Projection equipment. Screen. Window curtains or blinds Commemorative photos, displays. Social distancing to be observed.	before use or by hall cleaning staff. Social distancing guidance to be observed by hirers in arranging their activities. Hirers to be encouraged to wash hands regularly. Discourage users to touch soft furnishings, blinds or curtains, unless necessary. Wear plastic gloves if you need to touch these areas.	Consider removing window curtains and any other items which are more difficult to clean and likely to be touched by the public. Provide hand sanitiser.

Upholstered seating	Virus may remain on fabric. Cannot readily be cleaned between use. Frequent cleaning would damage fabric. Metal parts can be cleaned and are more likely to be touched when moving them, ie more frequently.	Cushioned chairs with arms are reserved only for those who need them by reason of infirmity and who have been socially isolating themselves. Avoid anyone else touching them unless wearing plastic gloves. Clean metal/plastic parts regularly touched. Rotate use of upholstered chairs, isolating them for 72 hours, these can be easily identified by colour branding and associated code to address when each colour is used. Ask those moving them to wear plastic gloves.	
Small meeting rooms and offices	Social distancing more difficult in smaller areas Door and window handles Light switches Tables, chair backs and arms. Copier, laminator, shredder. Floors with carpet tiles less easily cleaned.	Until further notice, as at 01.09.2020 this room is closed off for hire until further notice.	Temporarily closed

Kitchen	Social distancing more difficult Door and window handles Light switches Working surfaces, sinks Cupboard/drawer handles. Fridge/freezer Crockery/cutlery Kettle/hot water boiler	Until further notice, as at 01.09.2020 this room is closed off for hire until further notice.	Temporarily closed.
	Cooker/Microwave	Until further notice, as at 01.09.2020 this room is closed off for hire until further notice.	
Store cupboards (cleaner etc)	Social distancing not possible Door handles, light switch	Public access unlikely to be required. Cleaner to decide frequency of cleaning.	
Storage Rooms (furniture/equipment)	Social distancing more difficult Door handles in use. Equipment needing to be moved not normally in use	Public access unlikely to be required. Cleaner to decide frequency of cleaning.	

Indoor Toilets	Social distancing difficult. Surfaces in frequent use = door handles, light switches, basins, toilet handles, seats etc. Baby changing and vanity surfaces, mirrors.	Until further notice, as at 01.09.2020 the main toilets for male and female use is closed off for hire until further notice. The only toilet in use is the disabled toilet. Signage will be displayed to remind people of social distancing when in use or waiting.	Ensure soap, paper towels, tissues and toilet paper are regularly replenished.
Boiler / plant Room	Door handle, light switch Social distancing not possible	Public access unlikely. Cleaner to decide frequency of cleaning.	
Stage	Curtains Social distancing Lighting and sound controls	Consider tying back stage curtains (or removal) out of reach if hirers are likely to touch them.  Hirer to control access and clean as required.	
Changing Rooms	Outdoor toilets can be opened but it is not compulsory.	N/A	
Events	Handling cash and tickets Too many people arrive	Organisers arrange online systems and cashless payments as far as possible. For performances seats to be limited, booked in advance, 2 seats between household groups.  Cash payments/donations	See National Rural Touring Forum guidance, Section 2.6

		to be handled by one individual wearing gloves. Organisations to do their own risk assessment, provide details of hire, and conduct their own capacity calculations inline with their use and current legislation.	
Playground, Play equipment and Outdoor gym equipment	Covid-19 Risk Assessment required if re-opened. People at risk: clinically vulnerable children or adults, older relatives. If remain closed children have been/are likely to ignore notices/climb fences creating danger to themselves. Unstaffed, therefore not possible to clean, enforce social distancing or cleaning by users or parents. If unfenced, not possible to prevent access: Tape will be removed/ignored.	Responsibility of the parish council.	