



Risk Assessment

Bentley Recreation Ground

School Lane
GU10 5JP

Assessed by: Cllr Gordon Tillett

Date: 1st February 2026

The Recreation Ground is around 1 acre of grass in the centre of the village between School Lane and Main Road. It is available for residents of Bentley to use both as individuals and collectively. It has recently been leased to Bentley Archers, who are now responsible for its maintenance (e.g. grass cutting). The recreation ground has a car park and the sports pavilion to the north; and the children's playground and cricket nets to the east.

A separate risk assessment has been written for the children's playground:

The overall risk assessment for the recreation ground is evaluated as LOW.

Risks for different elements are assessed as High, Medium or Low, with suggested actions to minimise or mitigate risks.

RESIDUAL RISK RATING	ACTION REQUIRED
VERY HIGH (VH) Strong likelihood of fatality / serious injury occurring	The activity must not take place at all. You must identify further controls to reduce the risk rating.
HIGH (H) Possibility of fatality/serious injury occurring	You must identify further controls to reduce the risk rating. Seek further advice, e.g. from your H&S Team
MEDIUM (M) Possibility of significant injury or over 3-day absence occurring	If it is not possible to lower risk further, you will need to consider the risk against the benefit. Monitor risk assessments at this rating more regularly and closely.3-6 months to complete the work
LOW (L) Possibility of minor injury only	No further action required.



Hazard/risk	Risk level	Control measures to mitigate risk
Area		
Uneven grass	Low	Although recently levelled the grass is not completely level so care should be taken when running in the dips – risk of twisting ankles
Waterlogged	Low	The rec can flood and be boggy after heavy rain, so care should be taken when wet – risk of twisting ankles
Dry and hard	Low	In summer the ground can be very hard so care should be taken when running to avoid “burns” on falling
Foreign bodies (sharp)	Low	<p>In April 2025 the rec was levelled and layer of topsoil was added. Some of the top soil was contaminated with bits of crushed glass (glass with rounded edges). Visible glass on the surface was removed in June 2025 and warning signs were put up.</p> <p>An inspection in December 2025 took 30 soil samples (10cm deep) from across the rec and found glass in 1 of the 30 samples – so very limited and not on the surface. Broken glass, sharp stones or sharp objects could be on the rec at any time, especially after events like the summer fete. It is therefore recommended that footwear is worn when on the rec (not bare feet). It is also recommended that groups using the rec for an organised activity (e.g. Bentley Archers, The scouts, the school) do a visual inspection of the ground before any event.</p> <p>A clean up sweep should also be done of the rec following the summer fair and other village events that take place of the rec.</p>
Dog poo	Low	Poo bags and provided and bins and signs remind dog walkers to pick up their dog poo



Litter	Low	Litter should be picked up. Litter bins are provided
The car park	Low	Care should be taken when walking through the car park, and children should be supervised at all time
Vehicle damage	Low	Vehicles are only allowed on the rec for specific events such as the summer fair, the scout jumble sale, the fireworks set up. Vehicles should not be allowed on the rec when wet as they could causing “ruts” and damage the ground
Trees	Low	The trees on the west side should be checked and trimmed to remove low hanging branches, to avoid people banging into branches