**ST JOHN’S DONISTHORPE**

 **RISK ASSESSMENT – SERVICES**

**(updated July 2021)**

**As a result of this Risk Assessment the PCC of St John’s Donisthorpe has determined that services may take place in the church building as from August 2nd 2020 as well as for private prayer on Tuesday-Thursday 10am – 4pm of each week, and for funeral services**

This Risk Assessment is based upon guidance available as at 19th July 2021, and practice will evolve as national and diocesan guidance allows, and the current state of play regarding the Covid 19 virus.

As a PCC we aim to minimize risk, as much as is reasonably practicable in a constantly evolving situation, whilst recognizing we cannot entirely remove it. Our assessment of risk is based on

* Location - Village church, with minimal visitors from beyond the village or congregation
* The demographic of our local population, recognizing that many of our congregations and those visiting church may fall into the Extremely Vulnerable and Vulnerable groups, therefore potential impact may be high.
* The prevalence, of Covid 19 in the immediate and neighbouring communities appears to be high.
* Whilst legal constraints have been removed, the PCC is aware of the concerns of the vulnerable and seeks to provide a space where all feel safe.

Therefore our ***overall assessment of risk at this point is low/medium with controls in place***. If this changes, prevalence increases, or volunteers become unavailable then our approach will be revisited.

**RISK ASSESSMENT – SERVICE**

**(July 19th 2021)**

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| **Risk** | **Level of Risk** | **Control Measure** | **Level of Risk after Control Measure** |
| Lack of Social Distancing | High | * Taking into account the size of the building, access and egress points and pinch point at the door, restriction of numbers to 50 attendees.
* One way system throughout Church, enter down left aisle, leave via right aisle, signed at door and on floor.
* Request to remember social distancing when choosing seat.
* Alternate box pews to be taped open (effect is to close off alternate box)
* Collection by plate at entry or exit.
* Service sheets and hymn books to be available , but not to be handed out.
* Verbal reminder of no hand shaking or contact.
* No physical sharing of the peace.
* Masks to be worn whilst singing ,
* Communion to be taken in line with current guidelines
* Face coverings to be requested, though not mandated
* Farewells to be outside church and distanced.
 | Medium to Low |
| Contamination via Shared Resources and Surfaces | ~~High~~ Low | * Outer door to be left open all the time
* Inner Doors to be propped open until service starts and immediately at end.
* Hand sanitizer dispenser at entrance and at other points in the church.
* Children’s table and chairs to be sanitized before service and paced at 2m distance. For family services~~.~~

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| Emotional Distress including Anxiety and those who may be coming to terms with difficult bereavement | High | * Those shielding not encouraged to attend.
* Preparation by PCC before reopening to ensure all understand that this will not be the same as it was before.
* Emphasise no one with symptoms to attend. (signs to that effect)
 | Medium |
| Cleaning of Church | Medium | * Major cleaning to take place no less than 72 hours from services.
 | Low |
| Emergency Situations (ill health) | Medium | * Provision of one set of PPE for use if contact absolutely necessary.
* Emphasise no one to go to others’ assistance, but to call 111 or 999 as appropriate.
* Stay at 2m distance
 | Low |
| Emergency situation (fire) | Medium | * Follow fire evacuation procedure as at Appendix
 | Low |
| Refreshments | High | * No refreshments
 | Low |
| Attender subsequently testing positive and contact tracing necessary. | Medium | * Warden to list attendees
* Ensure only 1 member of clergy/reader at one service so large chunk of ministry team doesn’t face isolating for 14 days at the same time
 | Medium |

**RISK ASSESSMENT: GENERAL**

**(May 10th 2021)**

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| **Risk** | **Level of risk** | **Control measure** | **Risk after control measure** |
| Infection after known exposure to someone with Coronavirus symptoms | High | * If possible close the church building for 72 hours with no access permitted.
* If 72-hour quarantine is not possible then follow Public Health England guidance on cleaning in non-healthcare settings.
* If the building has been quarantined for 72 hours, then carry out cleaning as per the normal advice on cleaning.
 | Medium |
| Infection following general use of church | Medium | * Check all cleaners are not in a vulnerable group or self-isolating.
* All cleaners provided with gloves (ideally disposable) to protect their skin from exposure to cleaning materials.
* Suitable cleaning materials provided
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| Infection from small groups meeting in church | High | * No meetings of CoffeeandChat, 3 Ts, Lunch Light or Mother’s Union at this time
* PCC meetings etc to be conducted by Zoom
 | Low |