

MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. Fiona Coley

18 Birch Drive, Brantham, Manningtree, Essex,

CO11 1TF. Tel. 07597379602

email: clerk@manningtreetowncouncil.gov.uk; Website: www.manningtreetowncouncil.gov.uk

MANNINGTREE TOWN COUNCIL RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEME

Management and Finance:

SUBJECT	RISK IDENTIFIED	H/M/L	MANAGEMENT/CONTROL	REVIEW/ASSESS/REVISE
Business Continuity	Risk of council not being able to continue its business due to an unexpected tragic circumstance	L	Hard copy records stored in fire proof locked filing cabinet at the Clerk's home. PC hard drive backed up weekly. Documents stored in Cloud. Keys and passwords in the possession of the Mayor	Review at annual meeting in May
Meeting Location	Health & Safety Accessibility Adequacy	L	Meetings are held in the Masonic Lodge. Any Health and Safety concerns reported to the Masonic Lodge's Management Committee for action. Keys are held by the Clerk.	Review at annual meeting in May
Council Records	Loss through theft, fire, damage or corruption	M	Ensure adequate backup and insurance. Ensure anti-virus software in place and enforce IT user policy	Review at meeting in April. Insurance reviewed and renewed annually in April

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Precept	Ensuring precept is adequate.	M	Sound budgeting and forward planning underlie and inform the precept-setting process. Semiannual meetings of the Town Council's Finance Committee check income and expenditure and	Existing procedure adequate. Review at annual meeting in May
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			consider future revenues and expenditure.	
Insurance	Adequacy, cost, compliance, and Fidelity guarantee	M	Annual review of insurance arrangements and schedule ahead of renewal. Update fixed asset register when required. Ensure employers liability, public liability and Fidelity guarantee are in place.	Review in April in advance of the insurance renewal in June
Financial controls and records	Inadequate checks	L	Financial regulations are in place. Twice yearly meetings of Finance Committee check all payments versus budget expenditure.	Financial Regulations reviewed at annual meeting in May
Banking	Inadequate checks/bank errors	L	Financial regulations are in place. bank reconciliations are produced monthly and checked by the Finance Committee.	Financial Regulations reviewed at annual meeting in May

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Cash	Loss through theft or dishonesty	L	No petty cash held.	Existing procedures adequate.
Freedom of Information Act	Policy provision	L	Policy in place and clear guidance for responding to FOI requests	FOI policy reviewed at annual meeting in May
Clerk/RFO	Loss of clerk/RFO	M	Notice period built into contract.	Existing procedures adequate.
	Fraud	L	Fidelity guarantee insured. Finance Committee monitors accounts.	Insurance reviewed and renewed annually in April
	Incompetence	L	CiLCA course being undertaken and	Clerk fully CiLCA

	Payroll	L	training budget allocated. Mayor checks salary breakdown and full council approval required before salary submitted to HMRC.	competent. Training policy reviewed at annual meeting in May Existing procedures adequate
Election Costs	Unbudgeted costs	L	Ensure sufficient budgeting for election cost or earmark reserves.	Existing procedures adequate. Reviewed at November Finance Committee and December Full Council meeting

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VAT	Charging/Re-claiming	L	The Town Council has no services for which it must charge VAT. VAT is reclaimed from HMRC annually.	Existing procedures adequate. Annual check by internal auditor.
Annual Return	Ensuring submission within time frame	L	Timeframe chosen to coincide with June council meeting.	Existing procedures adequate
	Incorrect completion	L	Internal auditor checks end-of-year figures and documents. If income or expenditure exceeds £25,000 for the financial year, external audit will also be required.	Internal auditor appointed annually

Liability:

Legal Powers	Illegal activity or payments by the Council. Working groups making autonomous decisions.	L	Decisions and payments made only within the powers of the Town Council, resolved at Town Council meetings and minuted. Terms of reference outlined in Standing Orders.	Existing procedures adequate. Standing Orders reviewed at annual meeting in May.
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Minutes/agendas	Accuracy/Legality Non-compliance	L	<p>Clerk is fully trained to produce minutes and agendas in the prescribed format which adhere to legal requirements.</p> <p>The Clerk ensures that a formal 'Minutes' book is maintained and that all minutes are signed and recorded in that book.</p> <p>Minutes are approved and signed by the Chair at the next available council meeting.</p> <p>Agendas are circulated to councillors and displayed on the noticeboards and on the website in accordance with legal requirements.</p>	<p>Existing procedures adequate</p> <p>Adequate councillor training and development</p> <p>Members adhere to Code of Conduct</p> <p>Standing Orders reviewed at annual meeting in May.</p>
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			Business at meetings conducted in accordance with Agenda and Standing Orders which are reviewed annually.	
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GDPR	Storing information/risk of data breaches	L	Council has in place GDPR policy and a data audit with actions taken to protect personal data	GDPR policy reviewed at annual meeting in May
Public Liability	Risk to third party, property or individuals	M	Insurance in place (£10m indemnity), risk assessments carried out.	Insurance reviewed and renewed annually in June
Employer Liability	Non-compliance with employment law	L	Insurance in place (£10m indemnity). Clerk updates knowledge through NALC, SLCC, TDALC, HMRC, HSE, etc.	Insurance reviewed and renewed annually in June
Legal Liability	Legality of activities Proper and timely reporting via Minutes Proper document control	M	Clerk to clarify legal position on proposals and clarify situation if necessary Official's indemnity £500,000 Retention of Documents Policy in place	Insurance reviewed and renewed annually in June

Councillor's propriety:				
Members interests	Not declared/out of date	M	Councillors have a duty to declare interests on agenda items. Disclosures of interests reviewed annually.	Existing procedure adequate. Reviewed at annual meeting in May

Assets:

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Assets Maintenance/Damage (Benches, Litter bins, finger posts, cycle racks, grit bins)	Loss or Damage	L	Adequate insurance is in place and reviewed annually and an up to date register of assets is maintained which is reviewed annually.	Existing procedure adequate. Insurance reviewed in April and renewed annually in April
Street Lights	Public injury Loss or damage	H	High footfall areas. Annual inspection carried out by qualified lighting contractor and regular visual inspections throughout the year. Public liability insurance in place.	Existing procedure adequate. Insurance reviewed in April and renewed annually in June
South Street Green / Quay Street Green	Public injury	H	High footfall areas. Regular checks on bench. Annual tree survey carried out by qualified tree surgeon. Public liability insurance in place.	Existing procedure adequate. Insurance reviewed in April and renewed annually in June
Noticeboards	Public injury Loss or damage	L	Located in areas with very low footfall, public liability insurance in place.	Existing procedure adequate. Insurance reviewed in April and renewed annually in June
Village signs	Public injury Loss or damage	M	Located in areas with high footfall, public liability insurance in place.	Existing procedure adequate. Insurance

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				reviewed and renewed annually in June
Office Equipment	Staff/councillor injury Loss or damage	L	Insurance/Employer's liability in place, fixed asset register updated when required.	Existing procedure adequate. Insurance reviewed and renewed annually in June

Risk Schedule:

Item	Frequency	Last review	Comments/Actions
Asset inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street lights Greens/Trees Benches Litter bins Finger posts Cycle racks Noticeboards Village signs Grit Bins 	Regular (clerk/cllrs), annually (A&J Lighting) Regular (clerk/cllrs), annually (tree surgeon) Regular (clerk/cllrs) Regular (clerk/cllrs) Regular (clerk/cllrs) Regular (clerk/cllrs) Regular (clerk/cllrs) Regular (clerk/cllrs) Regular (clerk/cllrs)	June 2024 May 2024 April 2025 April 2025 April 2025 April 2025 April 2025 April 2025	Records kept by clerk Min No: 04.25.285

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Town Council insurance, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public liability • Employer's liability • Money & Fidelity guarantee • Personal accident • Fixed assets 	Annually before renewal	May 2024	Reviewed by full council in April every year prior to June renewal
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Financial Matters			
• Banking arrangements	• Annually or if change of signatories	May 2024	
• Insurance providers	• Annually by Council	May 2024	
• VAT Returns	• Annually by the Clerk	April 2025	
• Budget Agreed	• December Council meeting	Dec 2024	
• Precept Requested	• January by the Clerk	Jan 2025	
• Bank Reconciliation	• Monthly by Clerk Semi-annual by Finance Committee	Monthly	
• Salary Review	• Annually within budget review or NALC guide	Feb 2025	
• Internal Audit	• By MTC appointed auditor	May 2025	
• External Audit	• Annually PKF Littlejohn	July 2024	To be Arranged
• Internal Controls	• Annual Review of Finance Regulations	April 2025	
• Finance Regulations	• Annual Review	April 2025	

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Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes properly numbered • Asset register available/up to date • Standing Orders reviewed • Computer back-up 	Internal audit (May) Internal audit (May) Annually Weekly	Apr 2024 Ongoing May 2025	Existing procedure adequate
Employer's responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment contract • Staff appraisals • Training & development • Contractor's indemnity insurance • Health & safety policy/procedure 	Within 8 weeks of start Annually Budgeted and recorded Mandatory for commission In place	Ongoing May 2025	Existing procedure adequate
Member's responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Conduct adopted • Registers of Interest completed and up to date • Declarations of Interest minuted 	Annual review Annual review Agenda item at every meeting of council/committee	May 2025 May 2025 Ongoing	Existing procedure adequate

Adopted by the Council on 20/03/2025
 Review 20/03/2026

Scheme should be reviewed annually.

SIGNED

CLERK

DATE: 30/05/2025