



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 April
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 April
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 June



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Precept	Ensuring precept is adequate.	M	Sound budgeting and forward planning underlie and inform the precept-setting process. Semi-annual meetings of the Town Council's Finance Committee check income and expenditure.	Existing procedure adequate. Review at annual meeting in April
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			consider future revenues and expenditure.	
Insurance	Adequacy, cost, compliance, 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 May 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 April
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 June
	Incompetence	L	CILCA course will be taken in due course and budget is allocated.	Clerk not CILCA trained

	Payroll	L	Carried out by external company and checks of salary breakdown are carried out at full council approval required before salary submitted to HMRC.	Policy reviewed at annual meeting in April 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 May 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 April.
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<p>Minutes/agendas</p>	<p>Accuracy/Legality</p> <p>Non-compliance</p>	<p>L</p>	<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 April.</p>
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			Business at meetings conducted in accordance with Agenda and Standing Orders which are reviewed annually.	
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 April
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:				



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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 April
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Assets:

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 June
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



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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

				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
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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)	April 2026 April 2026 April 2026 April 2026 April 2026 April 2026 April 2026 April 2026 April 2026	Records kept by clerk Min No: 04.26.74
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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 2026	Reviewed by full council in May every year prior to June renewal
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Financial Matters			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banking arrangements 	<input type="checkbox"/> Annually or if change of signatories	April 2026	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance providers 	<input type="checkbox"/> Annually by Council	May 2026	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VAT Returns 	<input type="checkbox"/> Annually by the Clerk	April 2026	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Agreed 	<input type="checkbox"/> December Council meeting	Jan 2026	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precept Requested 	<input type="checkbox"/> January by the Clerk	Jan 2026	



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• Bank Reconciliation	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly by Clerk <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annual by Finance Committee	Monthly	
• Salary Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Annually within budget review or NALC guide	Feb 2026	Min No: 02.26.31
• Internal Audit	<input type="checkbox"/> By MTC appointed auditor	May 2026	Min No: 02.26.32
• External Audit	<input type="checkbox"/> Annually PKF Littlejohn	June 2026	To be arranged
• Internal Controls	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Review of Finance Regulations	April 2026	
• Finance Regulations	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Review	April 2026	

Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes properly numbered • Asset register available/up to date • Standing Orders reviewed • Computer back-up 	Internal audit (April) Internal audit (April) Annually Weekly	April 2026 April 2026 April 2026 April 2026	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	Feb 2026 Ongoing April 2026 April 2026	Existing procedure adequate



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<p>Member's responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Conduct adopted • Registers of Interest completed and up to date • Declarations of Interest minuted 	<p>Annual review Annual review Agenda item at every meeting of council/committee</p>	<p>April 2026 April 2026 Ongoing</p>	<p>Existing procedure adequate</p>
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Adopted by the Council on 20/03/2023
 Review 16th April 2026

Scheme should be reviewed annually.