

GENERAL RISK & FIRE RISK ASSESSMENTS 2025-26

Name of church St. John the Baptist, Curbridge
 Address (inc postcode) Main Rd, Curbridge, Witney OX29 7NU

Assessment undertaken by Ian Galletley

Reviewed by: Jeremy Lasman

Date 3 June 2025

The risk rating is a multiple of the scores for Probability and Impact. Both are scored out of 3. 1 = low, 2 = medium, 3 = high

A rating of 1 - 3 is Green, 4 - 6 Amber, 9 = Red. Any Amber and Red ratings must have actions identified to lower the risk rating. Red ratings demand immediate action, with a review within 1 month.

The first rating is that which would result should no mitigating actions be put in place.

The second (Rating #2) relates to the residual risk after the mitigating actions have been progressed.

The DCCs/PCCs are asked to accept the residual risk rating for each risk, and also to agree any further actions, associated accountabilities and monitoring.

The risks populated below apply to all our churches, but others specific to each church should be added. Ratings and mitigating actions *may* vary between churches.

Risk and Description	Prob	Imp	Rati ng	Mitigating actions	Prob #2	Imp #2	Rati ng #2	Further action req'd? Who and by when
<i>Slips, trips and falls</i> Leading to personal injury particularly for the elderly or infirm	2	3	6	Hazard tape to cover any steps regularly in use or loose surfaces Signage to be put out to cover wet floors First aid kits to be checked and replenished regularly	1	3	3	Consider major repairs to significantly uneven floor areas There is a light above the step. Deputy warden reviews annually. First Aid kit in up to date.

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				Slippery surface signs displayed on wet exterior surfaces or spillages anywhere until liquid is dried. Cable coverings/hazard tape to be used for leads. Adequate lighting in all accessible areas White lines on steps and ramps.				
Strains, bruising and injury From inappropriate lifting	2	2	4	Use enough suitable manpower for lifting Use trolleys etc. where possible for heavy objects Event & maintenance organizers to remind all staff of good lifting technique	1	2	2	Ensure event & maintenance organizers know correct lifting methods. Congregation not expected to lift. Lifting activities reduced to minimum Only activities are weddings, funerals and baptisms. Undertakers responsible for funerals; all others as determined by the appropriate priest.
Working at height Leading to significant fall and personal injury	3	1		Compliance with the 'working at height' element of the Benefice Health & Safety Policy. Ladders should be checked before use. Ladder user to be accompanied, and ladder held securely by accompanying person. Accompanying person to check that user is not overreaching	3	1		Outside contractors only
Lone working Risk of threat from others and/or personal injury	2	3	6	Adherence to the Single Person occupancy procedures as stated in the Benefice Health & Safety	1	2	2	Church is normally locked so no casual visitors. It is known to someone else when lone workers are in the building

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			6	Policy. Lone workers to have a mobile phone with them.			2	
On-site Contractors	2	3	6	Contractors will be advised/required to work in compliance with Parish Health and Safety Policy, including the requirements of working at height. Will be met by deputy warden and briefed. Insurance and appropriate certification will be checked No lone working, and telephone access should be checked Non-contractors should not use ladders / scaffolding etc.	2	1	2	As left
Fire Leading to personal injury and major damage to premises etc	3	1	3	Compliance with agreed evacuation procedure for major events; marshals identified and trained if not specific individuals named in evacuation procedure. Additional emergency exit signs displayed during events. Additional doors opened	3	1	3	Electricity only on when the building is occupied.
Visitors at events unfamiliar with church layout in emergency	1	1	2	Compliance with agreed evacuation procedure for major events; marshals identified and trained if not specific individuals named in evacuation procedure. Additional emergency exit signs displayed during events. Additional doors opened	1	1	2	Specific risk assessments to be completed for major events (in excess of 50 visitors). See above statement ie funerals or Christmas

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Arson	2	3	6	Church and porch locked overnight and when the building is not attended Bins are far away from the building	1	3	1	
Proximity to candles especially during baptism and candlelight services	1	3	3	Priest and wardens in charge to issue warning.	1	2	2	Votive candles are not used. Lit candles are only given to adults.
Risk of fire from heaters	1	3	3	Church users to be aware not to place flammable objects on or close to heaters	1	3	3	All heaters are twelve feet above the floor.
Risk of electric shock from faulty equipment	1	2	2	PAT tests Unplug equipment when not in use if possible Use low voltage / battery operated equipment RCD protection where possible	1	1	1	The electrical circuits are quinquennially inspected; there are no longer any electrical appliances in the church. No plug-in appliance; Hoover is battery operated
Theft Including money, artefacts and personal possessions	1	1	1	Cash to be counted and recorded under dual control (not from the same family group). Cash removed from church regularly. Any cash held in the church stored in the safe. Controlled access to any area where money is being counted during major events.	n/a	n/a	n/a	The church no longer collects cash. Any donations at funerals are handled by the undertakers. The church is never left open and unattended.

Date of last PAT test (annual)

No electrical appliances

Date of last electrical system test (every 5 years)

February 2022

Date of last fire extinguisher service

July 2024

(additional tests may be recorded here eg bell ropes, organ) Bell rope now in use and recently checked.

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Details of evacuation procedure:

The warden will ensure that someone with a mobile phone contacts the emergency services.

There is only one external door. All people to leave directly from the nave, if possible. If necessary, there is an alternative exit from the chancel through the vestry.

Only members of the congregation who have received training in using extinguishers should attempt to put out a small fire, and should not put themselves or others in danger by doing so.

The warden and/or welcomer will act as sweepers and be the last to leave the building, having checked that nobody is in the vestry.

The assembly point is in the churchyard, half way between the church and the road.

The warden will ensure that nobody re-enters the building until authorised by the emergency services.

Additional note: lawnmower and strimmer kept in locked separate store controlled by the deputy warden.

Named people responsible for evacuation procedure: Ian Galletley

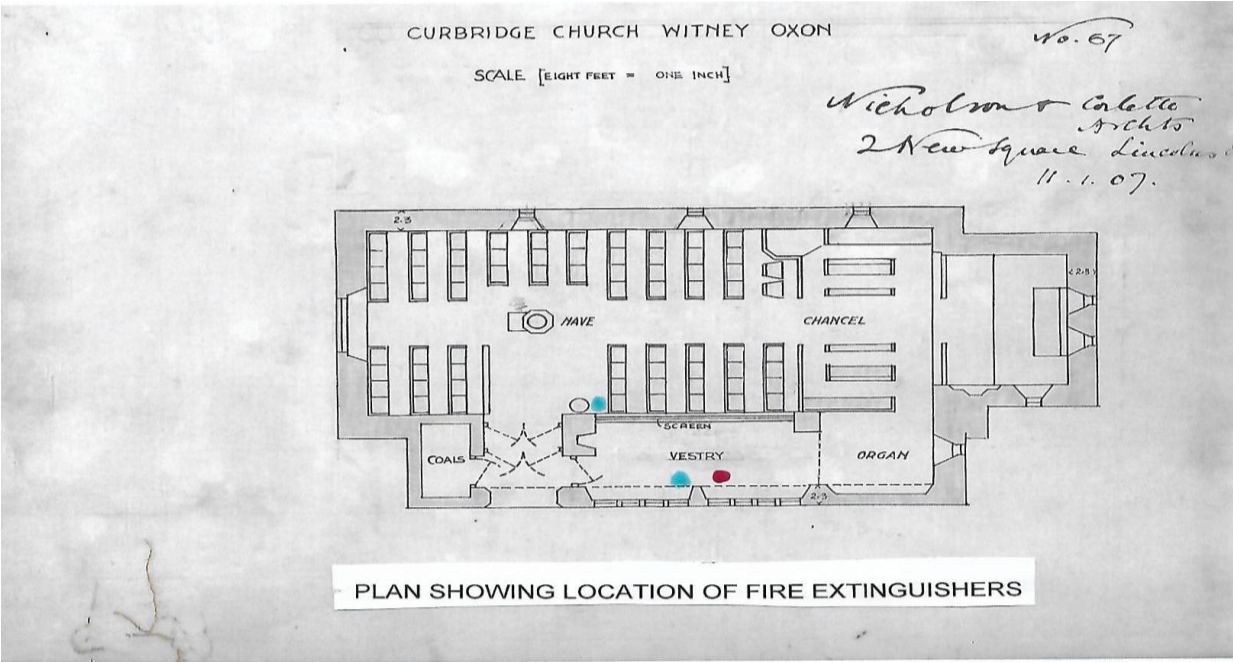
Approved by the PCC 7 July 2025

Signed *Kate Banks*


Counter-signed *Jeremy Lasman*

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Appendix A: Plan of church



LEGEND

-  Water Extinguisher
-  Carbon Dioxide Extinguisher