**Holy Rood, Packington**

**RISK ASSESSMENT – PUBLIC WORSHIP**

**This Risk Assessment is based upon guidance available as at 5th August 2020, and practice will evolve as national and diocesan guidance allows, and the current state of play regarding the Covid 19 virus. Weddings, funerals and baptisms will be conducted in accordance with current national guidance.**

**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 low.**

**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.**

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| **Risk** | **Level of Risk** | **Control Measure** | **Risk after Control Measure** |
| Lack of Social Distancing | Medium | * ENTRY DOOR - south door be used (not normal north door) to minimize need to steady oneself by holding on. Doors to remain open - to minimize contact with surfaces
* Sanitizer at entry / exit point
* Signs at door to sanitize hands and maintain social distance
* Facemasks to be worn by all
* Taking into account the size of the building, access and egress points and pinch point at the door, restriction of numbers to 30 attendees
* One way system throughout Church, enter down main aisle, leave via right or left aisle, signed at door and on floor.
* No sidesmen. Only warden to touch lights, heating etc. switches.
* Sign to request going straight to seat with no gathering.
* Request to remember social distancing when choosing seat.
* Same household groups only in same pew.
* Collection by plate at entry or exit.
* Service sheets to be available, but not to be handed out.
* Verbal reminder of no hand shaking or contact.
* No physical sharing of the peace
* Communion to be taken in line with current guidelines
* Sanitiser to be used before receiving bread
* Face coverings are to be worn by all
* Farewells to be outside church and distanced.
 | Low |
| Infection through shared use of Prayer Corner | Medium | • Removal of prayer pool and pebbles• No prayer leaflets or books or pens to be left out• Regular disinfection of prayer corner. | Low |
| Infection from touching physical surfaces | Medium | * Disinfection/ cleaning of surfaces including pews in Church at opening and closing
* Sanitiser at entry and exit points
* No prayer leaflets, magazines or books to be left out
* Access limited to south door to avoid the need to hold on to move down stairs.
* CD system to be sanitized before and after service and used by one person or household only.
* Brass and silverware to be put out and returned by one person or household only.
* Outer door to be left open all the time
* Inner Door to be propped open until service starts and immediately at end.
* No singing (as per C of E guidance) therefore no hymn books to be boxed and moved away.
* No books to be used. Service sheets only and to be taken from table after sanitizing hands
* Service sheets for baptisms will not be used for at least a month between services.
* Soft toys to be taken out of use.
* Lectern bible and pew bibles to be removed.
* One reader only per service, to use personal bible.
* Collection to be securely bagged, to be left in the safe for 72 hours before counting and banking.
 | Medium to low |
| Use of toilet | Medium | * Sanitser outside WC with notice to use before entering WC
* Notice to remind to wash hands and then to sanitize hands again on exit
* WC to be cleaned after service if used
 | Low |
| Emotional Distress including Anxiety and those who may be coming to terms with difficult bereavement | High | * Those shielding and at risk 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 |
| Refreshments  |  | No serving of refreshments  |  |
| Cleaning of Church | Medium | * Major cleaning to take place no less than 72 hours from services.
 | Low |

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| 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
 | Low |
| Attender subsequently testing positive and contact tracing necessary. | Medium | * Warden or appointed person 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 |
| Toilet  | High  | * For use during services only, cleaning materials available to individuals to clean before and after use.
* Hand drier not to be used. Paper towels and bin
* Toilet to be locked and cleaned after 72 hours.
 | Medium |

**RISK ASSESSMENT: GENERAL**

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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.I
* f the building has been quarantined for 72 hours, then carry out cleaning as per the normal advice on cleaning.
* If 72-hour quarantine is not possible then follow Public Health England guidance on cleaning in non-healthcare settings.
 | Medium |
| Infection following general use of church | Medium | * Check all cleaners /open & closers are not in at risk groups or protecting someone who is.
* All cleaners provided with gloves (ideally disposable) to protect their skin from exposure to cleaning materials.
* Suitable cleaning materials provided
* Air the building where possible by having all doors open whilst blocking access through north door, keep inside doors open while building is closed.
 | Low |
| Infection from small groups meeting in church | High | * No meetings, coffee mornings etc at this time
* PCC meetings etc to be conducted by Zoom
 | Low |