



# Friends of the Wembdon Road Cemetery

## Health and Safety Toolbox

For people linked to the Friends of Wembdon Road Cemetery helping in the cleaning and tidying of the cemetery, under the direction of Sedgemoor District Council.

### GENERAL SAFETY

It is the responsibility of everyone working on the site to work in a safe manner, to look after yourself and others affected by the work you are doing.

You are only permitted to use hand tools when working in the cemetery, SDC will carry out any mechanical strimming, hedgecutting etc. Wear sound footwear, gloves and eye protection when working in the cemetery.

Avoid working on anything above shoulder height.

Never work on your own in the cemetery, there should be a minimum of two people, ideally three, so if there is an accident there will be someone to take care of you.

Report all accidents to your Team Leader. For minor scratches and cuts, plasters and antiseptic wipes available.

Before eating sandwiches after working, ensure your hands are clean, antiseptic wipes are available.

There is a water tap on site but it is not advisable to drink from.

### MANUAL HANDLING

Avoid trying to move or lift any tombstones or kerbs. Know your capabilities, only tackle jobs you can handle.

When lifting or pulling use a good technique, keep your back straight, lift and pull putting the strain on your arms and legs, not your back. Avoid jerky movements.

## **SLIPS AND FALLS**

The cemetery has holes and divots that are covered by grass so be aware and be careful when walking. When cutting small branches and brambles, clear them away as you work so that you are working in a clean area with less chance of tripping yourself and others. Only work in the cemetery when there is good light, as the light fades there is a greater chance of falling over items and pot holes that you cannot see.

## **HAZARDS**

If you see any drug equipment, needles etc. do not touch, report to the Team Leader who will arrange for SDC to remove.

Should you find broken glass or any other item which is sharp and may cut people, notify the Team Leader who will arrange for someone to pick the items up with the right equipment.

Some of the plants and tree foliage are poisonous and may cause skin irritations, so always wear your gloves.

It is possible that there may be grass snakes and other small mammals in and around the tomb stones, it is suggested that trousers be worn it should be sufficient to protect your legs from scratches or bites.

Trousers also protects your legs from brambles and nettles.

Do not leave your tools and equipment lying around as the cemetery is open to the public, the items could be stolen or fallen over.

It is important that SDC are aware when the Friends are working in the cemetery.