

## Hartlepool Model Flying Club risk assessment document for Field House Farm site.

The HMFC flying site is located at Field House Farm near Greatham. It is bounded by open fields and accessed via a private road which is also a permissive by-way and cycle route used by walkers, horse riders and cyclists. The farm has livery stables and horses are kept in paddocks close to the flying area. Cattle are also kept in fields adjacent to the flying area and sometimes grazed on the flying field itself.

Risk ratings in this document are as per **CAP722A** risk matrix below.

	Severity of Safety Risk				
	Catastrophic 5	Hazardous 4	Major 3	Minor 2	Negligible 1
Likelihood of Safety Risk Occurring					
Frequent 5	Unacceptable (5,5)	Unacceptable (4,5)	Unacceptable (3,5)	Review (2,5)	Review (1,5)
Occasional 4	Unacceptable (5,4)	Unacceptable (4,4)	Review (3,4)	Review (2,4)	Acceptable (1,4)
Remote 3	Unacceptable (5,3)	Review (4,3)	Review (3,3)	Acceptable (2,3)	Acceptable (1,3)
Improbable 2	Review (5,2)	Review (4,2)	Acceptable (3,2)	Acceptable (2,2)	Acceptable (1,2)
Extremely Improbable 1	Review (5,1)	Acceptable (4,1)	Acceptable (3,1)	Acceptable (2,1)	Acceptable (1,1)

Severity of Safety risk occurring		
Definition	Meaning	Value
Catastrophic	Results in fatality of one or more people	5
Hazardous	Very serious injury or serious injuries to multiple people	4
Major	Serious injury or minor injuries to multiple people	3
Minor	Results in minor injury to an individual	2
Negligible	Nuisance of little consequence	1

**Unacceptable** – The Safety risk is not tolerable and mitigation measures are required to reduce the Safety risk to a tolerable level.

**Review** – The Safety risk may be considered tolerable. The risk should be reviewed with appropriate frequency to ensure that it remains so.

**Acceptable** – The safety Risk is tolerable and should be reviewed with appropriate frequency to ensure that it remains so.

Hazard detail	Severity	Likelihood	Initial score	Mitigation	Revised score	Comment
The farm road is narrow presenting potential vehicular risk to members of the public using it.	4	3	4,3 - Review	Club members are informed of the risk and advised to drive slowly and carefully.	4,2 - Review	
Entry to the flying field is via a gate from the access road. Risk of animals escaping on to the access road if gate not secured.	2	3	2,3 - Acceptable			The default is to close the gate after entry / exit if animals are in the field. Otherwise use a "leave as you find it" approach to gate control.
Field layout requires members to approach the flying area passing under the normal flight patterns.	5	3	5,3 - Unacceptable	The pits location allows approaching persons to be seen from the pits / pilot area. Approaching persons must not cross in line with the runway until anyone flying as signalled them safe to cross.	5,2 - Review	
Uniformed members of the public enter the area under the flight path.	5	3	5,3 - Unacceptable	If any persons enter the area under the flight path models must be landed immediately and the persons advised of the risk. If they wish to spectate, they must be guided to a safe viewing area and briefed on site safety protocols.	5,2 - Review	
Pilot error or structural / electrical failure may result in a crash with risk of impact with persons under the flight path.	5	3	5,3 - Unacceptable	No-fly and hazard areas are defined in Club rules to define and limit the risk area.	5,2 - Review	
Certain wind directions may result in models overflying the road. Loss of control could result in collision with persons using the road.	5	3	5,3 - Unacceptable	Most models can be kept within the field boundary. The road is very narrow making any crash event hitting this area statistically unlikely. Members are advised to avoid overflying the road wherever possible.	5,2 - Review	
Risk of collision with other air traffic.	5	2	5,2 - Review	The site is located outside the local airport exclusion area and outside Power Station no-fly areas. Club rules require pilots to look out for and avoid air traffic.	5,1 - Review	
Collision of model with pilot / helper. Risk is mainly associated with persons on the flying strip when preparing for take-off or retrieval of models.	5	3	5,3 - Unacceptable	Persons intending to enter the flying strip are required to verbally warn other pilots of their intention and wait for confirmation from those pilots.	5,2 - Review	
Aggressive reaction of animals towards club members on the flying field	5	3	5,3 - Unacceptable	Site rules to include advice on behaviours to avoid when in proximity to animals especially where calves are present. Animals are usually only present in the field over winter / spring.	5,2 - Review	

All hazards rated as “Review” will be re-assessed yearly or following any change in site circumstances or immediately following any safety related incident.

Issue	Date	Amendment detail	Modified by*:	Approved by**:
1	20/11/2024	First issue	Mike Bell	Bob Waugh

\*Signature of the committee member changing the document content.

\*\*Signature of the Chairman or Secretary approving the changed content.