

# Lidgate Parish Council

## Guidance for Volunteer Litter Pickers

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Thank you for volunteering to help keep Lidgate free of litter. We really appreciate your support. Our role is to ensure that litter picking is carried out safely with the risk to volunteers being kept as low as possible. You will be covered by the Parish Council's liability insurance, however it is a requirement set by our insurers that volunteers are made aware of any potential risks and how to avoid them. Children under 16 must be supervised by an adult.

Please read the information below carefully and sign the consent form at the bottom of the page.

Volunteers should:

- Work in pairs when picking up litter along the side of the road in areas with marked in orange or red on the Lidgate map. Work facing oncoming traffic with one person keeping an eye out for vehicles. Choose a quiet time when traffic volume is low. Only work in areas where you feel comfortable doing so. Children under 16 are not allowed to work alongside roads unless there is a pavement, and they must be supervised by an adult.
- Wear protective equipment e.g. thick gloves, hi-viz vest, sensible footwear, weather appropriate clothing
- Use litter grabbers to collect litter. Plastic bags and hoops will also be provided.
- Be aware of low hanging branches, exposed tree and shrub roots and dangerous plants which may cause an adverse reaction.
- If you find any hazardous objects (needles, syringes, batteries, asbestos or chemicals) or fly tipping please do not touch them. Make a note of the location and let the lead volunteer or the Parish Council know.
- Be careful not to lift heavy waste sacks. Ask someone to help you.
- Avoid dangerous areas such as steep slopes, or very uneven ground.
- Wear gloves at all times and be careful if you come into contact with dog faeces.
- Keep legs and arms covered if working in or near long grass to reduce the risk of insect or tick bites.
- Avoid getting hands wet in ditches or ponds. Do not work near the edge of the village ponds.
- If weather conditions deteriorate, do not carry on with the litter pick.
- Do not touch electric fences. Always assume that they are live.
- Wash your hands thoroughly as soon as possible after the litter pick and before taking any food or drink.

## Volunteer Agreement Form

I \_\_\_\_\_ [Print name], volunteering for Lidgate Parish Council, confirm that I have read the volunteer guidance.

My emergency contact is \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_