

SDOS Birding Walks Risk Assessment Form:

Assessor: Tony Benton : Date of Assessment 12 August 2024

Location: New Monks Park 'Country Park' - accessed from the A27 roundabout between Shoreham flyover and Lancing roundabout (signposted New Monks Park). Car park 'What3words' is roaring.trembles.confined

Brief Description: No facilities on site. The car park is free for a maximum of 2 hours. Located on the eastern edge of the New Monks Park housing development. Car access from the A27, or the airport road if coming from Shoreham Beach direction. It's a 10 -15 minute walk from the Old Toll Bridge (River Adur) and No 2 buses stop close to the Toll Bridge. Walks around the country park are on very good surfaces.

Hazard	Who might be harmed	Evaluation of Risk	Risk mitigation measures	Comments
Bad weather	All participants	Low / Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Lightning storms	All participants	Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Snow and ice	All participants	Low / Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Darkness, cloud, fog	All participants	Low	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Hot weather	All participants	Low/medium	Participants should bring a drink and wear suitable clothing and consider the need for sunscreen	Monitor weather forecast
Uneven walking surfaces	All participants	Low - the gravel paths are generally even	Suitable walking shoes are recommended	Participants to ensure that suitable footwear is available to them
Muddy conditions	All participants	Low	Mud is unlikely but walking shoes are recommended	Monitor weather forecast
Standing water and flooding	All participants	Low	Adjust route	Monitor weather forecast

Slippery surfaces	All participants	Low	Adjust route	Very unlikely as paths are good
Steep slopes	N/A	N/A	The route is flat	
Trip hazards	All participants	Low	Participants to judge their own capabilities and take care	
Stiles and gates	N/a			
Barbed wire, electric fences	N/a			
Obstructive vegetation	N/a			
Stinging or thorny plants	N/a			
Falling trees or branches	N/a			
Biting insects	All participants	Low	If wearing shorts or similar, be aware of very low possibility of ticks	Consult a GP if a tick bite is suspected
Snakes	All participants	Low	Possibility of grass snakes round water - do not disturb	
Farm or other animals	All participants	Low	Dogs off the lead might well be encountered	This site is used by professional dog walkers, so unfortunately dogs in small packs are possible.
Cycles	All participants	Low	Care to be taken as cyclists use the same gravel paths as walkers.	It's worth participants recognising that the footpath is a shared space. Don't assume it is a completely benign environment

Suggested clothing: Warm, waterproof clothing depending on weather conditions;