



Venue safety Report

Date	Venue	Inspection Carried Out	Hazards detected
17 th December 2017	Nostell Priory	Initial Health and Safety Report	Four (with many being repeated)

Report

Ashfield Angling has recently signed a seven year lease giving access to fish Nostell Priory upper lake. The club has taken over the lease from Wakefield Angling Club.

Access to the venue from the road for members is generally good with three carparks available. Access around the lake is not available to all parts with a combination of fallen trees and poor paths providing issues to anglers.

It is immediately evident that the lake is a state of decline and is the victim of years of neglect. This report concentrates only on the Health and Safety issues and will inform the maintenance plan. The maintenance plan will restore the venue to a viable and pleasant fishery to the benefit of Ashfield members. This report is based on my visit to the site on the 17th December the following hazards have been identified and should be prioritised within the venue maintenance plan

1. All access gang planks to fishing platforms to be removed; all current access is unsafe due to rot. (see photos) these gangways then to be replaced with a permanent and appropriate walk ways
2. South Bank (Wood side) – this area of the lake will need a substantial amount of tree management much of this work is out of scope for a members working party and will involve the use of chain saws and accessing trees at height. To enable this work to be carried out safely it is recommended that a professional tree surgeon/Arboriculturist is engaged for the work identified when the maintenance plan is formed
3. Pathway - South Bank (wood side) – portions of the path are blocked - as an interim measure it is recommended that the path ways are closed off and signs indicating closure are installed until this issue can be addressed
4. Reed removal – although this is a simple and a generally safe task – the presence of heavy silt makes this a potentially hazardous task. When the work parties approach this task the risk assessment must have suitable measures in to ensure members safety. This must include suitable rescue provisions and ensuring loan working is not carried out

Summary and recommendations

As the venue has no hazards such as fast flowing and deep water or high banks the venue should be considered a low risk/hazard venue. However, in its present state the hazards with the platforms needs addressing quickly, it was noted that recent work has been carried out to a platform(pictured) that appears to be un authorised and should be removed to prevent the club taken ownership of



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poor and unsafe work. As an interim measure before the gang planks are removed they should be roped off and members informed of the poor/unsafe condition of all gang planks. This report considers that the majority of the work in the initial work parties will represent the most hazardous period of the clubs management of the venue and that the work parties are informed by robust risk assessments that deal with the hazards identified within this report. The committee should ensure that members are informed that the venue should be considered as 'work in progress' and informed that care must be taken when accessing and fishing, the club should make this is clear to protect itself from possible claims or prosecution. As the work progresses it is recommended that revaluation of the venue is carried out to maintain a safe venue

Bryan Ashford
Ashfield Angling H&S Officer
Dec 2017

Photos of typical issues that need addressing





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