

## Document Control

Adopted date: March 2026

Next review date: March 2027, Parish Council to review annually or sooner if significant changes occur.



# Guidance to Users and Risk Assessment

## The Dell – Framingham Earl

Framingham Earl Parish Council

### 1. Site Overview

**Area:** The Dell, located between Long Road and Pigot Lane, Framingham Earl.

The Dell was formerly a gravel pit that provided raw materials for local house and road building. Once extraction ceased, the area became the village playground.

In 1993, the pit was reduced in size to enable the construction of a roundabout and create a safer road junction. In 1995, Framingham Earl Parish Council, with assistance from Norwich Fringe Project, Norfolk Rural Community Council, and South Norfolk Council, initiated a scheme to convert the former pit into a nature area.

Landscaping and planting were undertaken, pathways were cleared and improved for access, bird boxes were installed, and the area was renamed The Dell.

The facility is well used by residents and visitors and is maintained by the Parish Council, with valued assistance from local volunteers.

### 2. Risk Assessment

The Parish Council recognises that, as a natural open space, The Dell presents certain inherent risks. The following hazards have been identified and assessed as Low Risk, provided users act responsibly.

Hazard: Drowning from falling into water

Risk level: Low

Notes: Subject to weather conditions; water may occasionally be present in the bottom area of The Dell.

Hazard: Tripping on uneven ground

Risk level: Low

Notes: Natural terrain with variable surfaces and gradients.

Hazard: Disease or illness from water or wildlife

Risk level: Low

Notes: Contact with standing water or wildlife may pose minimal health risks.

Hazard: Insect bites

Risk level: Low

Notes: Insects are naturally present in wooded and grassed areas.

Hazard: Impact with vehicle from adjacent road

Risk level: Low

Notes: Site is adjacent to Long Road and Pigot Lane. Users should exercise caution when entering or leaving.

## 4. Mitigations in Place

The Parish Council has implemented the following control measures:

- Regular site visits and inspections by members of the Parish Council
- Regular volunteer working parties to undertake maintenance as required
- Warning signage stating “Deep Water”
- Throw bag (water rescue aid) installed and regularly checked.

## 5. Mitigations Not Yet in Place

- None identified at the time of adoption.

## 6. Guidance to Users

To ensure continued safe enjoyment of The Dell:

- Children must be always supervised.
- No contact should be made with standing water. If contact occurs, hands and exposed skin should be washed thoroughly.
- Extra care should be taken when entering or leaving the site due to proximity to roads.
- Users should take care on uneven or slippery ground.
- Any hazards, damage, or concerns should be reported promptly.

### **To report hazards or concerns:**

Parish Clerk

Telephone: 01508 493134

Email: [clerk@framinghamearlparrishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@framinghamearlparrishcouncil.gov.uk)

Website: <https://www.framinghamearlparrishcouncil.gov.uk>

**In case of emergency, call 999.**