

Creswell Parish Council - Risk Assessment - 2025-26

Area	Topic	Risk Identified	Classification	Measures in place	Measures to be taken to reduce/minimise/control	Responsible Person	Review
Physical Assets	Council Property	Loss or damage to physical assets	Med	Maintain and update register of assets, insure those assets in the Council's possession against damage or theft.	Update asset Register on a continual basis and amend insurance accordingly.	Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Physical Assets	Council Property	Risk or damage to third party property or individuals	Med	Public Liability insurance in place	Review annually	Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Financial	Budgeting	Overspend	Low	Clerk/RFO to monitor spending & report to Council monthly		Cllrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Financial	Financial Records	Inadequate or incorrect records	Low	Monthly reconciliation by RFO. Two signatures on payment approvals. All payments approved by the Council, at a meeting. Internal and external audits. Minutes reviewed, signed and dated at following meeting		Cllrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Financial	Financial Records	VAT and HMRC payments not made/claimed	Low	VAT and HMRC payments and claims calculated by RFO. Internal and external audit provide further checks		Clerk & auditors	Annually Next review May 2027
Financial	Income	Lack of sound budgeting to underpin annual precept	Low	Council commence budget process in late autumn. Precept derived from this.		Cllrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Financial	Income	Inadequacy of precept	Low	Clerk RFO presents monthly reconciled accounts. All monthly receipts and expenditure included in financial report to Council meeting	Council to review compare budget/actuals at least quarterly	Cllrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Financial	Loss of money	Loss through theft or dishonesty of Staff or Members	Med	Monthly reconciliation by RFO. Two signatures on payment approvals. All payments approved by the Council. Internal and external audits. Fidelity insurance in place	Bank reconciliation each month,	Clerk & auditors	Annually Next review May 2027
Financial	Reserves	Ensure adequacy	Low	Consider at budget setting		Councillors	Annually Next review May 2027
Financial	Staff Expenses	Wrong Expenses Paid	Med	Clerks expenses presented to Council monthly and Chairman to scrutinise claim		Cllrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027

Councillor Propriety	Training of Councillors	Illegal decisions could be made	Low	Review training required for Councillors		CLrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Councillor Propriety	Training of Clerk	Illegal decisions could be made	Low	Clerks training ongoing. Review annually		CLrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Councillor Propriety	Declarations of interest	Risk of bringing Council into disrepute	Low	Pecuniary Interests forms completed and held by monitoring officer. Declaration of office signed by all Councillors	Ensure compliance by agenda item on each agenda.	CLrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Governance	Legality of actions	Ensuring activities are within legal powers	Low	Clerk clarifies legal position on new proposals. Legal advice sought if required.	Consider formal training for Councillors as required	CLrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Governance	Legal requirements	Proper and timely reporting via the minutes	Low	Council meets monthly and approves the previous months minutes. Minutes available on website.		Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Governance	Planning Consultation	Meeting deadlines for response	Low	Meet between normal meetings if necessary		CLrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Staff	Staff	Loss of key personnel - Clerk through ill health, long term sickness or even death	Low		Review duties and responsibilities annually	CLrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
General	Document security	Appropriateness of existing facilities	High		Historical records to be deposited with County archive service, rest stored at clerks home.	Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
General	Disaster Recovery	Loss of computer records. Council unable to operate due to loss of key records	Med	Computer backed up daily to Microsoft OneDrive cloud storage.		Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Perrin	Public	Injury to attendees	Med	Public Liability insurance in place		CLrs & Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Cyber Security	Hardware and Software	Website and email	Low	Windows defender in place. No insurance necessary		Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027
Business Interruption	Loss of income	Loss of income in a disaster e.g fire, or natural disaster if the building were to close.	Low	No building owned by the parish council, no insurance necessary, contents are insured under clerks personal home insurance which also includes business. Equipment is covered under parish council's insurance for £2,500.		Clerk	Annually Next review May 2027