

# Risk Assessment for Tolpuddle Martyrs Festival 2021

## Wreath-laying

Sunday 18 July 2021

### The event

1.00pm – representative of the churches, unions and families will lay wreaths on the grave of James Hammett, the only Tolpuddle Martyr buried in the village.

The short ceremony will be accompanied by Graham Moore singer-songwriter for two acoustic songs.

It is anticipated that attendance will be no more than 30 people. At previous physical events the event would attract a few hundred people, a choir and media.

### Covid-19 Guidance

The event will adhere to the government's general guidance on risk during the Covid-19 pandemic:

1. If you have any of the following coronavirus symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

**Stay at home and arrange to have a PCR test – self-isolate for at least 10 days from when your symptoms started, and:**

2. There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other:

- **Wash hands** – keep washing your hands regularly
- **Cover face** – wear a face covering over your nose and mouth in enclosed spaces
- **Make space** – exercise caution and consider the risks - try to stay at least two metres apart – or one metre with a face covering or other precautions

The organisers take note of the full text of *The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Steps) (England) Regulations 2021*, online at: [https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2021/364/pdfs/uksi\\_20210364\\_en.pdf](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2021/364/pdfs/uksi_20210364_en.pdf)

**At the start of the event volunteers will take reasonable steps to ensure that all participants are aware of the need to:**

- Wear a mask or face covering when required.
- Engage in social distancing by keeping a safe distance (2 metres or 1 metre with a face mask) from people not in your household wherever reasonably practicable.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose. Sanitise your hands before touching your mask or removing your mask.
- Sanitise your hands regularly, avoid touching objects that aren't your own and do not share any equipment.
- If you need to cough, cough in a tissue and dispose of it safely (bin or take with you in a bag)
- If you feel a particular area is becoming too crowded, please check your distance and move away from others.
- Parents and carers of children and young people need to help their children with understanding the importance of hand hygiene, and help them to regularly wash/sanitise.

## Risk assessment and guidance to all participants

| What are the hazards?  | Who might be harmed and how?  | What are you already doing to control the risks?   | What further action do you need to take to control the risks?  | Who needs to carry out the action?   | When is the action needed by? | Done |
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| <p><b>Person infected with Covid-19 attends the event.</b><br/>This could include asymptomatic cases that have not self-isolated in accordance with current regulations.</p> | <p>The general public, participants, emergency services staff could contract the virus via direct or indirect exposure to Covid-19 (via respiratory droplets, aerosols or contact with contaminated surfaces)</p> | <p>Participants, prior to attendance, via social media messaging, are advised that if they are experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms they must NOT attend the event. (SYMPTOMS: A new, continuous cough, a high temperature, and/or a loss of or change in their normal sense of smell or taste.)</p> <p>Encourage participants to adhere to the Government's general guidance as set out below.</p>  | <p>Preventing exposure to the virus is preferable to trying to deal with an exposure after it has happened. Therefore, measures to prevent attendance in the first place, by symptomatic participants, is the most appropriate control.</p> <p>If parents/carers are accompanying children/young people to the event, they should ensure the child/young person is not experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms.</p> | <p>Everyone</p> <p>Pre-event communications people</p> <p>Parents/carers</p>   | <p>Ongoing</p>                |      |
| <p><b>Spread of Covid-19 to other people via the contaminated hands of a person at the event.</b><br/>People attend the event with hands contaminated with the virus.</p>    | <p>Other participants, the general public or emergency service staff may contract the virus via indirect exposure to the virus, via the contaminated hands of another participant.</p>                            | <p>To reduce the risk of infection transmission via the contaminated hands of another person, participants are encouraged to follow handwashing/sanitising protocols prior to and during their attendance at the event. Physical distancing will be promoted and encouraged.</p> <p>Covid volunteers to monitor transmission minimisation measures and remind/help participants to adhere to them.</p> <p>Covid volunteers to be mindful if there are young people on the protest, and engage with parents/carers to promote infection control measures.</p> <p>Encourage participants to adhere to the Government's general guidance.</p> | <p>Encouraging regular handwashing/sanitising will reduce the risk of infection transmission via this route to a minimum.</p> <p>Physical distancing will minimise the risk of infection transmission via other people's hands.</p> <p>Avoid passing wreaths to one another without sanitizing</p>   | <p>Everyone</p> <p>Covid volunteers to monitor transmission minimisation measures and remind/help participants to adhere to them</p> | <p>Ongoing</p>                |      |

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| <p><b>Spread of Covid-19 to other people via respiratory droplets and aerosols.</b><br/>Participants at the event distribute respiratory droplets and aerosols by talking, coughing or sneezing.</p> | <p>Other participants, the public or emergency service staff may contract the virus via direct or indirect exposure to the virus, via contaminated respiratory droplets and aerosols from an infected person at the protest.</p> | <p>As an outdoor event the risk is much reduced.<br/>Participants are encouraged to wear a face covering.<br/>Participants are encouraged not to touch their eyes, nose and mouth.<br/>Participants who need to cough, sneeze or blow their nose are encouraged to use a tissue, which should then be disposed of safely (into a bag carried by the participant or a bin).<br/>Parents/carers of young people (if present) to help their children to understand and practice respiratory hygiene.<br/>Covid volunteers to monitor transmission minimisation measures and remind/help participants to adhere to them.<br/>Encourage participants to adhere to the Government's general guidance</p> | <p>If participants do not have tissues available, using the crook of their elbow to cough or sneeze into, is to be encouraged as an alternative measure.</p>   | <p>Everyone<br/><br/>Covid volunteers to monitor transmission minimisation measures and remind/help participants to adhere to them</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> |  |
| <p><b>Getting or spreading coronavirus through participants from different households travelling together in cars, or on public transport.</b></p>   | <p>Participants travelling to the event may become infected by exposure to the virus from a fellow traveller, either on public transport or in private vehicles.</p>   | <p>Participants are encouraged to observe guidelines and protocols around hand washing/sanitising and respiratory hygiene.<br/><br/>Parents/carers to help children and young people (if present) with infection control measures.<br/><br/>Encourage participants to adhere to the Government's general guidance</p>  | <p>Encourage participants to use face coverings when in private transport and keep vehicles well ventilated.<br/><br/>Wear a face covering when using public transport (which is a legal requirement at present).<br/><br/>Encourage participants to carry hand sanitiser with them and use frequently.<br/><br/>Encourage participants to sit side-to-side, rather than face-to-face, if recommended physical distancing measures are not achievable.</p> | <p>Everyone<br/><br/>Pre-event communications folk.</p>  | <p>Ongoing</p> |  |

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| <p><b>Contracting or spreading the virus by not physical distancing.</b><br/>Whilst in the churchyard physical distancing guidelines are not strictly adhered to.</p> | <p>Participants, the general public or emergency service staff may become infected by being too close to a person who is infected, and contracting the virus either through direct (respiratory droplets or aerosols) or indirect (contaminated surfaces, including hands) transmission routes.</p> | <p>Participants to be encouraged/reminded to observe physical distancing guidelines at regular intervals, by Covid volunteers and fellow participants.<br/>Encourage participants to use the double arm-reach technique if in doubt about distances.<br/>Participants to be encouraged/reminded to use a face covering, so as to reinforce the message.<br/>Parents/carers and stewards to help/remind children and young people, if present, to practise physical distancing.<br/>Covid volunteers to monitor transmission minimisation measures and remind/help participants to adhere to them.<br/>Encourage participants to adhere to the Government's general guidance</p> | <p>Covid volunteers to monitor the numbers in the churchyard and make sure it does not become overfilled – direct participants to alternative locations.<br/><br/>The ceremony itself will be controlled to ensure social distances are observed</p>  | <p>Everyone<br/><br/>Covid volunteers to monitor transmission minimisation measures and remind/help participants to adhere to them</p>                         | <p>Ongoing</p> |  |
| <p><b>Contracting or spreading the virus via contaminated surfaces</b><br/>Whilst at the event surfaces become contaminated with the virus and are touched.</p>       | <p>Participants, the general public or emergency services staff, could contract the virus via a contaminated surface.</p>   | <p>Participants are encouraged to regularly wipe down surfaces likely to be touched, with an appropriate surface cleaner or wipe (ordinary domestic products can be used).<br/><br/>Volunteers to monitor transmission minimisation measures and remind/help participants to adhere to them.<br/><br/>Encourage participants to adhere to the Government's general guidance</p>   | <p>Regular surface cleaning during the protest will minimise the chances of infection transmission.<br/><br/>Parents/carers, assisted by Covid volunteers, to encourage children and young people (if present) not to touch surfaces where possible, and if this happens, to practice hand hygiene and clean touched surfaces afterwards.</p> | <p>Everyone<br/><br/>Covid volunteers to monitor transmission minimisation measures and remind/help participants to adhere to them<br/><br/>Parents/carers</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> |  |