Example Risk Assessment for a Community Event

HAZARDS	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED & HOW?	SUGGESTED CONTROLS & MEASURES	CURRENT RISK		
			L	1	R
BBQS & FIRE PITS	People could be injured & burnt by a fire Property - cars; houses - could also be damaged by a fire	 Have responsible people in charge & supervising at all times Have water; sand; fire extinguisher etc. in place and readily available in case of an emergency First-aid kit & first aider at event Keep matches in a safe place and keep flammable liquids secured in appropriate bottles & containers Set up in a sensible place – away from combustible materials 	2	3	6
BBQS & OTHER FOOD	Risk of food poisoning or allergic reaction to food	 Careful, hygienic food preparation Labels on food identifying ingredients like nuts Experienced BBQ chef in charge of cooking! Check & test food before handing out Use a meat thermometer if in doubt! 	2	3	6
ELECTRICITY	People could be electrocuted or suffer electrical burns & injuries from cables	 Don't overload plug sockets Any mobile generators to be taped/sectioned off with warning signs Only allow experienced folks or the owners to use generators 	1	3	3
GAMES & ACTIVITIES	People will be at risk of a variety of personal injuries, depending on/ related to the activity in question! Football on the green could see a grazed knee or even a broken leg And Tug of War might mean rope burns	 Have a responsible but fun person to supervise formal games & activities Section off an area for games & activities, maybe a grass verge or someone's garden Think about games & activities when you're planning your event – especially where to put them and how many might take part 	1	1	1

Risk: L = Likelihood; I = Probable Impact; R = Risk (L*I)

Likelihood: 1 = Highly unlikely; 2 = Unlikely; 3 = Possible; 4 = Probable; 5 = Highly probable

Probable Impact: 1 = Minor injury; 2 = Injury; 3 = Possible trip to the doctor or hospital; 4 = Significant injury; 5 = Fatality or life-changing injury

Risk Score Bands: 1 to 5 = Low risk; 6 to 10 = Higher risk – think about how you're managing or supervising this; 11+ = HIGH RISK Further controls & measures recommended

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HIGHER RISK GAMES & ACTIVITIES	A climbing wall or a bouncy castle could be great fun – but both could see people injured in different ways	 Again, a responsible person to supervise Make sure that people taking part in the activity supplied with all relevant safety equipment and instructions Use safety surfaces as appropriate/required Buy in the service! A reputable firm will be able to provide you with a risk assessment and they'll have their own insurance for what they're doing 	2	3	6
GAZEBOS, PARASOLS & EVENT STRUCTURES	People putting things up and taking them down are at risk of a variety of injuries including back pain and pulled muscles, not to mention frustration!	 Follow the instructions! Have sufficient people on hand to put up & take down Allow yourself plenty of time Check you have all the parts before the day itself 	2	1	2
MOVING THINGS	There's always a risk of a variety of injuries, including back pain and pulled muscles, when you're moving heavy or awkward items	 Don't be a hero - especially an injured hero! Avoid lifting or carrying heavy, bulky or awkward items Move heavy things as close as possible to where they're needed using cars, vans or even wheelbarrows 	2	2	4
LOCAL CONCERNS & OBJECTIONS		 Talk to friends, neighbours and your community about the event Involve people when you're organising the event Be considerate about noise, timings etc. Come up with sensible and reasonable compromises where necessary Keep people up to date all the way up to the big day 	2	1	2
WEATHER	That most British of hazards! In all seriousness people are at risk of discomfort and possible ill health from exposure to the weather, including sunburn & dehydration in warmer weather; and frostbite, hyperthermia & infections in the cold	 People on supervising duties to wear suitable clothing for the weather Have a rota in place too, so people helping out with the event are able to take breaks and enjoy the event as well Set up areas of shade if you're organising a summer event Have plenty of drinks and water available in really hot weather 	2	1	2

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