

**SDOS Birding Walks Risk Assessment Form:**

Assessor: Tony Benton : Date of Assessment 7 March 2022

Location: **Shoreham Fort** area - Starting at Harbour Way, short pavement walk to Shoreham Fort (toilets), then area around the Fort, beach, and harbour wall.

Brief Description: A walk of about a mile maximum - a mixture of flat pavements and shingle beach. A choice about birding from the harbour wall. This walk is only partially wheelchair accessible.

Suggested clothing: Warm, waterproof clothing depending on weather conditions; strong footwear or wellington boots, particularly after heavy rain.

<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Who might be harmed</b>	<b>Evaluation of Risk</b>	<b>Risk mitigation measures</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Bad weather	All participants	Low / Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Lightning storms	All participants	Low / medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Snow and ice	All participants	Low /medium	Advise participants - cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Darkness, cloud, fog	All participants	Low	Advise participants	Monitor weather forecast
Hot weather	All participants	Low / Medium	Participants to wear suitable clothing and have access to fluids	Monitor weather forecast
Uneven walking surfaces	All participants	Medium for some less mobile participants	Ask participants to exercise care , and to assess what they can manage - they can always turn back. A walking aid can be useful.	The shingle beach is not easy for some people with impaired mobility, a stretch of approximately 100 metres between the fort car park and the harbour wall.
Harbour wall - risk of slipping or falling into the sea or danger of very high waves	All participants	Low / medium	Avoid sea weed on the foot-path and don't climb over the safety barrier. Do not use the harbour wall if the sea is high/rough.	Participants have a responsibility to not climb on or cross the safety barrier on the harbour wall and to be aware of very high waves.

