The River Foss Society Health and Safety Policy

(Wording led by Inland Waterways H&S Policy)

The River Foss Society exists to promote widely appreciated, accessible activities available for the benefit of all. This is achieved through a combination of advocacy, education and physical works. We aim to achieve this without adversely affecting anyone’s health and safety or causing harm to the natural environment.  The Society is committed to protecting the health and safety, so far as is reasonably practicable, of its volunteers, members and the wider public when engaged on activities led or promoted by the Society.

The Association is committed to achieving these specific health and safety aims:

* To prevent accidents and causes of activity-related ill-health, and to provide adequate control of health and safety risks arising from activities led or promoted by the Society.
* To provide appropriate training, relevant instruction or supervision by a competent person to ensure volunteers, and members of the Society are able to carry out activities safely.
* To promote and clearly communicate health and safety matters throughout the Society by engaging with volunteers and members using various media including RFS’s website, social media, email, printed documentation and videos.
* To provide equal standards of protection to volunteers and members of the Society.
* To maintain safe and healthy by making available appropriate safety equipment, and ensuring that all vehicles, tools and equipment used by the Society are in good working order.
* To collect, consult and analyse information on accidents, dangerous incidents and activity-related ill-health in order to review practices and take action were practicable to prevent any recurrence.

Whilst engaged in any activity managed or promoted by the Society, volunteers, members and visitors are urged, in their own interest and that of their colleagues, to take reasonable care of their own health & safety and observe the Society’s health and safety procedures. Any matter which those participating in any activity consider may be hazardous to either health or safety must be brought to the notice of their activity leader or other responsible person at the earliest opportunity.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it remains effective in terms of the organisation’s structure and activities.