

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

BYELAWS FOR PLEASURE GROUNDS, PUBLIC WALKS AND OPEN SPACES

ARRANGEMENT OF BYELAWS

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Byelaws made under section 164 of the Public Health Act 1875, sections 12 and 15 of the Open Spaces Act 1906 and section 235 of the Local Government Act 1972 by the Oxford City Council with respect to grounds listed in Schedule 1 with respect to pleasure grounds, public walks and open spaces, for the good rule and government of Oxford City Council and for the prevention and suppression of nuisances.

PART [1]

GENERAL

General Interpretation

In these byelaws:

“the Council” means Oxford City Council;

“the ground(s)” means each, all and any of the grounds listed in Schedules [1], [2], [3], [4]

“designated area(s)” means an area in the ground which is set aside for a specified purpose, that area and its purpose to be indicated by notices placed in a conspicuous position;

“invalid carriage” means a vehicle, whether mechanically propelled or not,

- (a) the unladen weight of which does not exceed 150 kilograms,
- (b) the width of which does not exceed 0.85 metres, and
- (c) which has been constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of a person suffering from a disability, and used solely by such a person.

Application

Unless otherwise stated, these byelaws apply to all of the grounds listed in Schedule [1]

Byelaw 10 (1) relating to cycling applies only to the grounds listed in Schedule [2]

Part [5] Waterways: Byelaw [17 (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6)] applies to all those grounds listed in Schedule [3].

Part [5] Waterways: Byelaw [17 (7)] applies to all those grounds listed in Schedule [4].

PART [2]

PROTECTION OF THE GROUND, ITS WILDLIFE AND THE PUBLIC

Interpretation of Part [2]

In this Part:

“Sky lantern” means any unmanned device which relies on an open flame or other heat source to heat air within it with the intention of causing it to lift into the atmosphere

Protection of structures and plants

1. (1) No person shall without reasonable excuse remove from or displace within the ground:
 - (a) any barrier, post, seat or implement, or any part of a structure or ornament provided for use in the laying out or maintenance of the ground; or
 - (b) any stone, soil or turf or the whole or any part of any plant, shrub or tree.
- (2) No person shall walk on or cycle, otherwise ride, drive or station a horse or any vehicle over:
 - (a) any flower bed, shrub or plant;
 - (b) any ground in the course of preparation as a flower bed or for the growth of any tree, shrub or plant; or
 - (c) any part of the ground set aside by the Council for the renovation of turf or for other landscaping purposes, including the development of wildlife habitat, and indicated by a notice conspicuously displayed.

Unauthorised erection of structures

2. No person shall without the consent of the Council erect any barrier, post, ride or swing, building or any other structure.

Grazing

3. No person shall without the consent of the Council turn out or permit any animal for which they are responsible to graze in the ground.

Protection of wildlife

4. (1) No person shall kill, injure, take or disturb any animal, or engage in hunting or shooting or the setting of traps or the laying of snares.
- (2) No person shall permit any dogs under their control to disturb or hunt any animal, bird or other wildlife.

Camping

5. No person shall without the consent of the Council erect a tent or use a vehicle, caravan or any other structure for the purpose of camping [except in a designated area for camping or authorised by the council as part of an event].

Fires

6.
 - (1) No person shall:
 - (a) light a fire or barbecue; or
 - (b) place, throw or drop a lighted match, firework or any other thing likely to cause a fire; or
 - (c) release a lighted sky lantern into the atmosphere.
 - (2) Byelaw (1) shall not apply to:
 - [(a)] the lighting of a fire, barbecue or use of fireworks at any event or activity for which the Council has given permission, or in any part of the ground set aside by the Council for that purpose.

Missiles

7. No person shall throw or use any device to propel or discharge in the ground any object which is liable to cause injury to any other person.

Interference with life-saving equipment

8. No person shall, except in case of emergency, remove from or displace within the ground or otherwise tamper with any life-saving appliance provided by the Council.

PART [3]

HORSES, CYCLES AND VEHICLES

Interpretation of Part [3]

In this Part:

“designated route” means a route in or through the ground which is set aside for a specified purpose, its route and that purpose to be indicated by notices placed in a conspicuous position;

“Cycle” means a manually pedalled bicycle, or an electrically assisted bicycle with a motor output not exceeding 250w continuously and has a maximum speed assistance up to 15.5 mph;

“motor cycle” means a mechanically-propelled vehicle, not being an invalid carriage, with less than four wheels and the weight of which does not exceed 410 kilograms;

“motor vehicle” means any mechanically-propelled vehicle other than a motor cycle or an invalid carriage;

“trailer” means a vehicle drawn by a motor vehicle and includes a caravan.

Horses

9. (1) No person shall ride a horse except:
 - (a) on a designated route for riding; or
 - (b) in the exercise of a lawful right or privilege.

- (2) Where horse-riding is permitted by virtue of byelaw [9](1)(a) or a lawful right or privilege, no person shall ride a horse in such a manner as to cause danger to any other person.

Cycling

10. (1) No person shall, in any of the grounds listed in Schedule 2, without reasonable excuse, cycle except in such part of the ground where there is a right of way [or a designated route] for cycling.

(2) No person shall cycle in any of the grounds in such a manner as to cause danger or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to other persons using the ground.

Motor vehicles

11. (1) No person shall, without reasonable excuse, bring into or drive in the ground a motor cycle, motor vehicle or trailer except in any part of the ground where there is a right of way [or a designated route] for that class of vehicle.

(2) [Where there is a designated route for motor cycles, motor vehicles or trailers, it shall not be an offence under this byelaw to bring into or drive in the ground a vehicle of that class for the sole purpose of transporting it to the route].

(3) Byelaw [11] shall not apply to:

- (a) Any vehicle which the Council has given written permission to drive into the ground as part of an authorised event or activity.

PART [4]

PLAY AREAS, GAMES AND SPORTS

Interpretation of Part [4]

In this Part:

“golf course” means any area within the ground set aside for the purposes of playing golf and includes any golf driving range, golf practice area or putting course;

“self-propelled vehicle” means a vehicle, other than a cycle, invalid carriage or pram which is propelled by the weight or force of one or more persons skating, sliding or riding on the vehicle or by one or more persons pulling or pushing the vehicle.

Skateboarding, etc

Skateboarding, etc permitted but must not cause danger or annoyance

12. No person shall skate, slide or ride on rollers, skateboards or other self-propelled vehicles in such a manner as to cause danger or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to other persons.

Cricket

13. No person shall throw or strike a hard cricket ball with a bat except in a designated area for playing cricket.

Archery

14. No person shall engage in the sport of archery except in connection with an event organised by or held with the consent of the Council.

Field sports

15. No person shall throw or put any javelin, hammer, discus or shot except in connection with an event organised by or held with the consent of the Council [or on land set aside by the Council for that purpose].

Golf

Golf prohibited [except where part of ground is set aside as a golf course/mini golf]

16. No person shall drive, chip or pitch a hard golf ball [except on the golf course/in a mini golf enclosure].

PART [5]

WATERWAYS

Interpretation of Part [5]

In this Part:

“boat” means a vessel of every description and includes any yacht, motor boat, barge or similar water craft with or without means of propulsion used or capable of being used as a means of transportation or habitation on, in, or by water, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing description includes any houseboat but not a model or toy boat;

“power-driven” means driven by the combustion of petrol vapour or other combustible substances;

“waterway” means any river, lake, pool or other body of water and includes any fountain.

“mooring” means the act of being physically attached to any ground listed under Schedule [3] or [4], physically touching the ground, or tied to objects in the ground, by way of ropes, gang planks, stakes in the ground, or other similar methods.

Mooring

17.
(1) No person shall in any ground listed in Schedule [3] moor any boat or permit any boat to be moored for a period longer than the 72 hour duration allowed for visitor mooring provided for this purpose (listed under Schedule [3] (no return within 21 days).

- (2) No boat owner or occupier shall store items on any area of the ground, or dump rubbish or generally litter the ground
- (3) No boat owner or occupier shall behave in any way which causes distress or annoyance to any other person on the ground, adjacent residents or other boat owner/occupiers
- (4) No boat owner or occupier shall foul or pollute any water course in the ground by inappropriate disposal of waste matter or material, or create air pollution through the burning of inappropriate fuel or other similar materials.
- (5) No boat owner or occupier shall create trip hazards along the towpath or riverbank through inconsiderate positioning of mooring spikes or ropes
- (6) No boat owner or occupier shall undertake actions detrimental to wildlife and habitats, including damage to trees and riverbanks
- (7) No person shall moor any boat in any ground listed under Schedule [4] where mooring is prohibited, except in an emergency.

Fishing

- 18. No person shall in any waterway cast a net or line for the purpose of catching fish or other animals [except in a designated area for fishing].

Blocking and pollution of watercourses

- 19. (1) No person shall cause or permit the flow of any drain or watercourse in the ground to be obstructed, diverted, open or shut or otherwise move or operate any sluice or similar apparatus.
- (2) No person shall foul or pollute any water course in the ground.

PART [6]

MODEL AIRCRAFT AND DRONES

Interpretation of Part [6]

In this Part:

“model aircraft” means an unmanned aircraft which weighs not more than 7 kilograms without its fuel;

“drone” means unmanned aircraft that is remotely controlled by a person on the ground.

“power-driven” means driven by:

- (a) the combustion of petrol vapour or other combustible substances;
- (b) jet propulsion or by means of a rocket, other than by means of a small reaction motor powered by a solid fuel pellet not exceeding 2.54 centimetres in length; or

- (c) one or more electric motors or by compressed gas.

“radio control” means control by a radio signal from a wireless transmitter or similar device.

- 20. (1) No person shall cause any power-driven model aircraft or drone to:
 - (a) take off or otherwise be released for flight or control the flight of such an aircraft in the ground; or
 - (b) land in the ground without reasonable excuse.
- (2) Byelaw [20] shall not apply to use of model aircrafts or drones at authorised events or where a specified area is designated for this activity.

PART [7]

E-SCOOTERS

Interpretation of Part [7]

In this Part:

“E-Scooter” means an electric powered vehicle, two-axle, with a steering wheel, without a seat and without pedals, designed to be driven only by the rider on that vehicle.

- 21. No person shall use any of the grounds for the purpose of passage by e-Scooter.

PART [8]

OTHER REGULATED ACTIVITIES

Provision of services

- 22. No person shall without the consent of the Council provide or offer to provide any service for which a charge is made.

Excessive noise

- 23. (1) No person shall, after being requested to desist by any other person in the ground, make or permit to be made any noise which is so loud or so continuous or repeated as to give reasonable cause for annoyance to other persons in the ground by:
 - (a) shouting or singing;
 - (b) playing on a musical instrument; or
 - (c) by operating or permitting to be operated any radio, phone, amplifier, tape recorder, or similar device.
- (2) Byelaw 23(1) does not apply to any person holding or taking part in any entertainment held with the consent of the Council.

Public shows and performances

24. No person shall without the consent of the Council hold or take part in any public show or performance.

Aircraft, hang gliders and hot air balloons

25. No person shall except in case of emergency or with the consent of the Council take off from or land in the ground in an aircraft, helicopter, hang glider or hot air balloon.

Metal detectors

26. (1) No person shall without the consent of the Council use any device designed or adapted for detecting or locating any metal or mineral in the ground.

PART [9]

MISCELLANEOUS

Obstruction

27. No person shall obstruct:
- (a) any officer of the Council in the proper execution of their duties;
 - (b) any person carrying out an act which is necessary to the proper execution of any contract with the Council; or
 - (c) any other person in the proper use of the ground, or behave in a way likely to cause endangerment or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to other persons in the ground.

Savings

28. (1) It shall not be an offence under these byelaws for an officer of the Council or any person acting in accordance with a contract with the Council to do anything necessary to the proper execution of their duty.
- (2) Nothing in or done under these byelaws shall in any respect prejudice or injuriously affect any public right of way through the ground, or the rights of any person acting lawfully by virtue of some estate, right or interest in, over or affecting the ground or any part of the ground.

Removal of offenders

29. Any person offending against any of these byelaws may be removed from the ground by an Officer of the Council or a Police Officer.

Penalty

30. Any person offending against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

Revocation

31. The byelaws made by the Council on 8th July 1996 and confirmed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department on 23rd February 1996 relating to the land are hereby revoked.
32. The byelaws relating to Shotover County Park, made by the Council on 5th March 1996 and confirmed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department on 1st July 1996 relating to the land are hereby revoked.

SCHEDULES

GROUNDS TO WHICH BYELAWS APPLY

SCHEDULE [1] - Grounds to which byelaws apply generally

(Multiple site names are given where these are in general usage. Postcodes given are an approximation of location based on vicinity of nearest property).

Site name	Address		
Abbey Road, Thames-side embankment	Abbey Road, OX1 1HW	Bury Knowle Park	London Road, OX3 9HZ
Alexandra Park / Alex Courts	Middle Way, OX2 7LG	Canal Street Gardens, Jericho	Canal Street, OX2 6BH
Aristotle Lane Recreation Ground	Aristotle Lane, OX2 6TR	Chilswell Valley / Happy Valley	Chilswell Path, OX1 5AP
Balfour Road Park	Balfour Road, OX4 6AW	Cold Harbour Nature Area	Off Bertie Place, OX1 4TN
Barns Road Corner Play Area / Boswell Road Play Area	Barnes Road, OX4 3QY	Court Place Farm Open Space	Marsh Lane, OX3 ONQ
Barracks Lane/Reliance Way Meadow	Barracks Lane, OX4 2AS	Court Place Farm Nature Area	Marsh Lane, OX3 9QP
Bartholomew Road Kick about Area	Bartholomew Road, OX4 3RN	Cowley Marsh Park	Marsh Road, OX4 2HH
Barton Bradley Recreation Ground / Grace Park	Barton Road, OX3 9LB	Croft Road Recreation Ground	Croft Road, OX3 0JZ
Bernwood Road Park / Joy Meadows / Bonny Banks Park	Bernwood Road, OX3 3HB	Cuttleslowe Park	Hardbord Road, OX2 8ES
Blackbird Leys Park	Cuddesdon Way, OX4 6ST	Dale Close Open Space	Dale Close, OX1 1TU
Bonn Square	Bonn Square, OX1 1LQ	Dean's Ham Meadow	Marlborough Road, OX1 4LU
Botley Park and Tumbling Bay	Botley Road, OX2 0BD	Dene Road Play Space	Dene Road / Town Furze, OX3 7EF
Boundary Brook Road Nature Area	Boundary Brook Road, OX4 4AN	Donnington Recreation Ground / Playing Field	Freelands Road, OX4 4BS
Brasenose Woods Open Space / Magdalen Woods / Slade Meadow / Slade Camp	Eastern Bypass, OX4 2FF	Donnington Riverside / Falcon Rowing Club	Meadow Lane North, OX4 4BJ
Broad Oak Open Space	Broad Oak, OX3 8TS	Dunstan Road Park / Nature Area	Foxwell Drive, OX3 9QE
Burgess Field Nature Reserve	Off Port Meadow, OX2 6ED	Fettiplace / Bayswater Road Recreation Ground	Bayswater Road, OX3 9NZ
		Fiddler's and Sidelings Islands Thames-side Mooring	Thames Path, OX2 0NJ
		Fisher Row Gardens	Upper Fisher Row, OX1 1HH
		Five Mile Drive Recreation Ground	Five Mile Drive, OX2 8HT
		Florence Park	Rymers Lane, OX4 3JZ
		Fox Crescent Play Space	Fox Crescent, OX1 4UX
		Foxwell Drive	Foxwell Drive, OX3 9QE
		Friars Wharf Play Space / Street Sports	Friars Wharf, OX1 1RU
		Fry's Hill Park / Pottery Piece	Moorhen Walk, OX4 7WU
		Gaisford Road / Bartholomew Road Recreation Ground	Gaisford Road, OX4 3LQ
		George Moore Close Play Area	George Moore Close, OX4

Gillians Park / Spider Park / Dunnock Way Park	4DA Dunnock Way, OX4 7YS	Lower Wolvercote Green Play Space	Wolvercote Green, OX2 8BG
Girdlestone Road / Slade Corner Play Space	Girdlestone Road, OX3 7LY	Lye Valley Nature Reserve	169 The Slade, OX3 7HP
Grandpont Nature Park	Whitehouse Road, OX1 4QJ	Magdalen Quarry Nature Area	William Kimber Crescent / Gladstone Road, OX3 8LW
Grandpont Open Space, Whitehouse Road	Whitehouse Road, OX1 4PA	Magdalen Wood West Open Space	Atkyns Road, OX3 8RA
Great Clarendon Street / Hart Street Play Area	Great Clarendon Street, OX2 6BN	Manzil Way Gardens and Play Space / Cowley Road Gardens	Manzil Way, OX4 1XF
Headington Hill Park	Headington Road, OX3 0ED	Manzil Way North / Nye Bevan Close Gardens	Manzil Way, OX4 1DJ
Hinksey Park	Lake Street, OX1 4RW	Margaret Road /Quarry Recreation Ground	Margaret Road, OX3 8NQ
Horspath Road / Hollow Way Recreation	Horspath Road / Hollow Way, OX4 2QL	Meadow Lane South Nature Park	Meadow Lane, OX4 4BL
Hundred Acres Close Park	Hollow Way, OX3 7JS	Meadow Lane North Recreation Ground	Jackdaw Lane, OX4 1SR
Hunter Close Play Space	Hunter Close, OX4 2PX	Milham Ford Open Space	Marston Road, OX3 0FL
Hythe Bridge Street Pocket Park / Canal Terminus Garden	Hythe Bridge Street, OX1 2EP	Mistletoe Green Play Space	Mistletoe Green, OX4 7FY
Iffley Meadows Nature Reserve	Donnington Bridge Road, OX1 4UP	Nightingale Avenue Play Space	Nightingale Ave, OX4 7GR
Iffley Meadows Thames-side mooring	Donnington Bridge Road, OX1 4UP	Normandy Crescent Play Space	Normandy Crescent, OX4 2TF
Iffley Triangle Nature Area / Swan Island, Iffley Island	Weirs Lane, OX1 4EQ	Northway Recreation Ground	Dora Carr Close, OX3 9RG
John Allen Centre / Havelock Road Recreation Ground	Adjacent to John Allen Centre, OX4 3JP	Oatlands Road Recreation Ground	Alexandra Road, OX2 0ET
Kersington Crescent Play Space	Kersington Crescent, OX4 3RH	Oxpens Meadow	Oxpens Road, OX1 1TY
Kidneys Nature Area / Iffley Fields	Meadow Lane North, OX4 1TJ	Pauling Road Play Space, Wood Farm	Pauling Road, OX3 8PT
Kingfisher Green Play Space	Kingfisher Green, OX4 7BX	Peasmore Piece Nature Area	Copse Lane, OX3 0AY
King George's Field	Duke Street / Marlborough Crescent, OX2 0FD	Peat Moors Recreation Ground	Pear Moors, OX3 7HS
Longbridges Thameside Nature Area and Island	Donnington Bridge Road / Thames Path, OX4 4AX	Port Meadow	Walton Well Road / Godstow Road, OX2 6QY
		Quarry Hollow Pocket Park / Quarry Road Corner Park	Quarry Hollow, OX3 8JR
		Raleigh Park and Paddock	Raleigh Park Road / Yarnells Hill, OX2 9AS
		Rede Close Play Space	Rede Close, OX3 8PP
		Redmoor Close Play Space	Redmoor Close, OX4 4PT
		Rewley Wall towpath / green strip	Rewley Abbey Court, OX1

Ridgefield Road Recreation Ground	2DD Ridgefield Road, Cowley OX4 3DB	Walton Well Road Open Space	Rutherway, OX2 6QY
Ridgeway Road Recreation Ground	Ridgeway Road, Risinghurt OX3 8DS	Waynefleete Road Play Space, Barton	Waynefleete Road, OX3 8DD
Rivermead Road Nature Reserve	Rivermead Road, OX4 4UE	Westbury Crescent Open Space	Westbury Crescent, OX4 3RZ
Rock Edge Nature Area	Windmill Road / Old Road, OX3 8NE	Wolvercote Former Bathing Place / Picnic Area	Godstow Road, OX2 8PG
Rose Hill Recreation Ground	Carole's Way, OX4 4RF	Wolvercote Hurst Woodland Fragment	Ulfgar Road, OX2 8BG
Ryder Close Play Space	Ryder Close, OX2 7BW	Wood Farm Green Recreation Ground	Wood Farm Road, OX1 2JD
Sandfield Road Recreation Ground	Sandfield Road, OX3 7RW	Woodhouse Way Nature Area, Iffley	Woodhouse Way, OX4 4JN
Sermon Close Play Area	Sermon Close, OX3 8ES	Woodpecker Green Play Space	Woodpecker Green, OX4 7QW
Shotover Country Park	Old Road, OX3 8TA		
Showman's Field	Marsh Lane OX3 ONQ		
South Park	Headington Road, OX3 0ED		
Spindleberry Nature Area	Spindleberry Close, OX4 6DU		
Staunton Road Rest Garden	Staunton Road, OX3 7TW		
St Christopher's Place Play Area	St Christopher's Place, OX4 2LD		
St. Giles' Memorial Gardens	St Giles', OX2 6HT		
Stone Meadow Play Area	Stone Meadow, OX2 6TD		
Sunnymead Open Space	Wren Road, OX2 7SX		
Sunnymead Meadow	Water Eaton Road, OX2 7QH		
Terret Avenue Play Area	Terret Ave, OX3 8FE		
Thames View Road Recreation Ground	Thames View Road, OX4 4TQ		
Townsend Square / Donnington Doorstep Play Area	Townsend Square, OX4 4BB		
Trap Grounds Nature Reserve	Frenchay Road, OX1 1AF		
Twenty Pound Meadow (remnant), Botley Road	Botley Road, OX2 0BL		
Upper Wolvercote Green Play Area	Godstow Road, OX2 8PQ		

SCHEDULE [2] - Grounds where cycling is prohibited

Site name	Address
Hinksey Park	Lake Street, OX1 4RW
Lye Valley Nature Reserve	The Slade, OX3 7HP
Trap Grounds Nature Reserve	Frenchay Road, OX1 1AF

SCHEDULE [3] – Grounds where temporary mooring is permitted for 72 hours (no return within 21 days)

Location and watercourse	Description
Fiddler’s and Sidelings Islands towpath	East bank of Thames along Fiddler’s and Sidelings Islands (from southern end of Port Meadow to junction with the Sheepwash Channel)
Grandpont embankment	South bank of Thames bordering Grandpont Nature Reserve

Temporary visitor mooring at the two sites below may be suspended by the Environment Agency prior to and during university rowing events

Iffley Meadows embankment	Section of the west bank of Thames bordering Iffley Meadow, from the northern boundary of Brookes boat house extending 150 metres north
Long Bridges Mooring Platforms	Two concrete mooring platforms just south of Hertford College boat house at Long Bridges

SCHEDULE [4] – Grounds where mooring is prohibited

Location and watercourse	Description
Abbey Road Towpath	East bank of Thames along rear of the properties on Abbey Road
Arthur Street Thames embankment	West bank of Thames forming frontage of Arthur Street
Castle Mill Stream	Both banks of the Castle Mill Stream along the eastern boundary of Oxpens Meadow/ western boundary of St Ebbs by the River
Falcon Rowing Club, and Riverside Centre	East bank of Thames bordering the grounds of the Falcon Rowing Club/Donnington Riverside, under Donnington Bridge and bordering City of Oxford Rowing Club

Friar's Wharf Open Space Embankment Iffley Meadow Weirs Mill Stream East	North bank of Thames along Friar's Wharf open space East bank of Weirs Mill Stream along west edge of Iffley Meadow Nature Reserve (from Donnington Bridge Road to bypass).
The Kidneys Nature Area	East bank of Thames bordering the 'Kidneys'
Long Bridges Island Nature Area Oxpens Meadow	Section of Weirs Mill Stream North bank of Thames bordering the southern end of Oxpens Meadow
Port Meadow	East bank of Thames along the edge of Port Meadow (excluding the Marina)
Meadow Lane South Nature Reserve	East bank of Thames bordering Meadow Lane Nature South Reserve
Rivermead Nature Reserve	East bank of Thames along frontage of Rivermead Nature Reserve up to bypass bridge