

BYELAWS

With respect to The Great Wood, Northaw 1980
Made under Section 41 of the Countryside Act 1968

BYELAWS made under Section 41 of the Countryside Act 1968 by the District Council
of Welwyn Hatfield with respect to the country park known as The Great Wood,
Northaw.

1. DEFINITION. Throughout these byelaws the expression “the Council” means the Welwyn Hatfield District Council and the expression “the land” means the country park known as The Great Wood, Northaw.

2. WALLS AND FENCES ETC. No person shall on the land:

(i) wilfully, carelessly or negligently soil or defile any wall or fence on or enclosing the land, or any building, barrier, railing post, or seat, or any erection or ornament;

(ii) climb any wall or fence on or enclosing the land or any barrier: railing post or other erection;

(iii) wilfully, carelessly or negligently remove or displace any barrier, railing, post or seat, or any part of an erection or ornament, or any implement provided for use in the laying out or maintenance of land.

3. BILL POSTING. No person shall affix or cause to be affixed any advertisement, bill, placard or notice upon any building, wall, fence, gate, door, pillar, post, tree, rock or stone on or enclosing land.

4. FIRES.

(a) No person shall light a fire on the land, or place or let fall a lighted match or any other thing so as to be likely to cause a fire.

(b) This byelaw shall not prevent the lighting or use of a property constructed camping stove or cooker in any area set aside for the purpose, in such a manner as not to cause danger of or damage by fire.

5. VEHICLES ETC.

(a) No person shall ride or drive a mechanically propelled vehicle or any bicycle on any part of the land where there is no right of way for vehicles.

(b) This byelaw shall not extend to invalid carriages conforming to the provisions of regulations made under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970.

(c) If the council has set apart a space on the land for use by vehicles of any class, this byelaw shall not prevent the riding or driving of those vehicles in the space so set apart, or on the direct route between it and the entrance to the land.

6. GATES. Where the Council indicate by a notice conspicuously exhibited on or alongside any gate on the land that leaving that gate open is prohibited no person having opened that gate or cause it to be opened shall leave it open.

7. CAMPING. No person shall without the consent of the Council erect a tent or use any vehicle, including a caravan, or any other structure for the purpose of camping on the land except on any area which may be set apart and indicated by notice as a place where camping is permitted.

8. FIREARMS ETC. A person shall not have in his possession any firearm unless it is so covered with a securely fastened gun cover that it cannot be fired. In this byelaw the expression "firearm" means any lethal barrellled weapon of any description from which any shot bullet or other missile can be fired.

9. DOGS. No person shall cause or suffer a dog belonging to him or in his charge to enter or remain on the land, unless such dog be and continue to be under proper control, and be effectually restrained from causing annoyance to any person, and worrying or disturbing any animal or bird.

10. HUNTING, SHOOTING AND FISHING. No person shall without lawful excuse or authority in the Park kill, molest or wilfully disturb any animal, bird or fish or engage in hunting, shooting or fishing or the setting of traps or nets or the laying of snares.

11. GRAZING. No person shall, except in pursuance of a lawful agreement with the Council, turn out or permit any animal to graze on the land.

12. SALE OF GOODS. No person shall on the land sell, or offer or expose for sale, or let to hire, or offer or expose for letting to hire any commodity or article except in pursuance of an agreement with the Council.

13. OBSTRUCTION OF WATER COURSES. No person shall obstruct the flow of any drain or watercourse, or open, shut or otherwise interfere with any sluice gate or similar apparatus on the land.

14. BATHING. No person shall bathe in any waterway comprised in the land.

15. WATER POLLUTION. No person shall wilfully, carelessly or negligently foul or pollute any waterway comprised in the land.

16. DISTURBANCE AND OBSTRUCTION. No person shall on the land wilfully obstruct, disturb or annoy any other person in the proper use of the land or wilfully obstruct or disturb a warden or other officer of the Council in the proper execution of his duty, or any person or servant of any person employed by the Council in the proper execution of any work in connection with the laying out or maintenance of the land.

17. PUBLIC GATHERINGS. No person shall without the prior consent of the Council organise or take part in any sponsored walk or orienteering on the land.

18. RIDING OF HORSES. No person shall ride a horse on any part of the land except that set apart by the Council for this purpose and marked by notices affixed in a conspicuous position.

19. RIDING OF HORSES. No person shall, on any part of the land so set apart by the Council for the riding of horses.

(a) Ride any horse in such a manner as to cause danger to other persons on the ground or without reasonable consideration for such persons.

(b) Ride any horse except on Monday – Friday from 8am to one hour after sunset and on Saturday from 8am to 1pm.

(c) Whilst riding any horse engaged in racing.

Provided that the Council may ban riding on the land from time to time to prevent damage to the land or to avoid undue interference with the enjoyment of the land by other persons.

20. PRESERVATION OF GRASS. No person shall on the land walk run stand sit or lie upon any grass turf or other place where adequate notice to keep off such grass turf or other place shall have been placed.

21. SAVING CLAUSE.

(i) Any act necessary to the proper execution of his duty on the land by an officer of the Council or by any person or servant of any person employed by or acting with the authority of the Council shall not be deemed an offence against these byelaws.

(ii) Nothing in or done under any of the provisions of these byelaws shall in any respect prejudice or injuriously affect any public right of way over the land or the rights of any person acting legally by virtue of some estate right or interest in over or affecting the land or any part thereof.

22. PENALTY. Every person who shall offend against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.
