



Future Use of the Country Park (Approved on 12 March 2018)

Vision

The Country Park serves the Cranbrook development through the following primary functions:

- As a nature reserve to support and enhance the local biodiversity through landscaping and habitat creation;
- As an open space to provide a safe recreational and leisure resource for the community and visitors;
- As a flood defence for the town to assimilate the Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) and flood compensation requirement for the Cranbrook development.

Uses of the Country Park should contribute to and support the three strands above and not seek to detract from them.

Some uses are inconsistent with the vision and are not permitted - these include the following:

- Access by motorised vehicles except authorised for the purposes of maintaining the country park environment;
- Fires;
- Barbecues unless with prior consent of the Town Council in connection with an authorised event;
- Flying motorised model aircraft and drones.

Events may take place within the country park but the following criteria applies.

Where the event involves an entrance fee, charge or the intention is to raise funds:

- Prior authority for the event to take place must be obtained from the Town Council;
- The organisers must have in place valid public liability insurance of no less than £5 million;
- The organisers must have carried out a current and valid risk assessment;
- The organisers must also obtain any licences that are required under relevant legislation.

Where the event does not involve an entrance fee, charge or fundraising, prior authority to hold the event must be obtained from the town council where **any** of the following apply:

- The erection of any structure such as a tent or gazebo;
- The use of any music or sound system;
- Where use of the space by the general community is restricted as a result of the event;
- Where the number of people attending is expected to exceed 20;
- Where it is intended to use a barbecue.

Use of the Country Park by Professional Dog Walkers

The Council recognises the importance and obvious benefit to everyone of promoting responsible and considerate dog walking. As a profession, dog walking companies must treat the safety and welfare of dogs and people as paramount at all times. Professional dog walkers may use the Country Park but are required to sign up to a voluntary code of conduct.

The Town Council does not wish to constrain uses of the country park but does wish to ensure that both users, event organisers and Town Council:

- Adhere to relevant legislation;
- Protect the environment and landscape;
- Do not offend nor discriminate against any group or individual;
- Adhere to relevant health and safety legislation and guidance.

Event Organisers and Town Council must consider the following:

- Impact of the event on the physical and social environment of the area;
- Enjoyment, safety and quality of life for residents, visitors and local businesses; and
- Financial implications.

In applying this policy the Town Council seeks to ensure that:

- It meets its responsibilities in terms of relevant event legislation and guidance;
- If authorised, the event is delivered safely and effectively with minimal disturbance to the local community surrounding the area;
- All the necessary considerations have been taken into account allowing for the delivery of a safe and successful event that does not have a negative impact on the Council's land or local community.

Fees and Charges

Events involving an entrance fee, charge or fundraising.

Number attending	Fee Payable in advance
Less than 20	£25
20-100	£50
100-500	£100
500 or more	£200

Events that do not involve an entrance fee, charge or fundraising will not be required to pay a fee.

In all cases organisers must have given a written undertaking to make good any damage to the country park that arises as a result of the event and depending on the nature of the event the Town Council reserves the right to ask for a deposit.

Organisers of events are advised to contact the Town Council at the earliest opportunity to discuss a planned event. Town Council staff will be able to help with advice and guidance.

Cranbrook Town Council
12 March 2018