

USE OF THE COUNTRY PARK AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

The Country Park serves Cranbrook 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 residents and visitors;
- As a flood defence for the town to assimilate the Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) and flood compensation requirement for the development.

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

Some uses are inconsistent with the vision and are not permitted, including:

- Access by motorised vehicles except authorised for the purposes of maintaining the Public Open Spaces and environment;
- Fires;
- Flying motorised model aircraft and drones.
- Horse riding
- Fishing. The Council does not permit fishing in the Country Park. Fishing without permission is a criminal offence under Section 2 of Schedule 1 Theft Act 1968.

The use of barbeques is only permitted in the designated area where the Council installed four permanent barbeques.

Use of the Public Open Spaces 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 Public Open Spaces but are required to sign up to a voluntary code of conduct which is set out at the bottom of this document.

Use of the Public Open Spaces for Overnight Camping

Public Open Spaces must not be used for overnight camping unless authorised by Cranbrook Town Council. Authorised camping events will be published in advance on the council's website. For authorised or un-authorised camping residents are asked to call 101 if any antisocial behaviour occurs, for example;

- Shouting, screaming or the playing of loud music.
- Foul language or abusive behaviour towards other park users
- Causing damage to any aspects of the park and surrounding area.

Any antisocial behaviour, related to any activity, should be reported to the police.

You can either phone 101 or report online at <https://services.devon-cornwall.police.uk/crimereporting/>

Events may take place within Public Open Spaces, but the following criteria apply.

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

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

Where the event does not involve an entrance fee, charge or fundraising, prior permission 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 the 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.

The Town Council does not wish to constrain uses of Public Open Spaces but does wish to ensure that both users, event organisers and the 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 the 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 business use, an entrance fee, charge or fundraising. Number of attendees	Fee payable in advance
Less than 20	£25.00
20-100	£50.00
100-500	£100.00
500 or more	£200.00

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

Date of Approval: 18 February 2019

Date of Review : May 2023

CRANBROOK PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

CODE FOR CYCLISTS

The Country Park and Public Open Spaces serve 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.

Users of the Public Open Spaces should contribute to and support the three strands above and not seek to detract from them. We want everyone to enjoy the Public Open Spaces equally and we ask that cyclists have regard to the following points:

- Slow down and be mindful of pedestrians, children and dog walkers;
- Ensure that others know of your presence;
- To protect the landscape and wildlife, follow the laid-out paths and avoid widening paths or creating new lines through the undergrowth;
- Take care of yourself and the paths which can be sensitive to damage, particularly during wet weather;
- Do not modify paths or build jumps as this can affect the flood protection measures;
- Obtain the required consent from the Town Council for organised cycling events;
- Report any problems to the Town Council.

The Public Open Spaces are a valuable local resource and, by respecting both the environment and other users, cyclists can enjoy the facilities that are present today and those that will follow as the town develops.

CODE FOR DOG WALKERS

The Council recognises the importance and obvious benefit to everyone of promoting responsible and considerate dog walking. Cranbrook Country Park is a popular dog walking space and it is important to consider the impact that your dog might have on other people.

To keep Cranbrook as a safe and welcoming place for all, the following controls must be adhered to:

1. Dog owners must always pick up wherever they are.
2. Dog owners must keep their dogs on a lead on roads and pavements.
3. One person can only walk up to 6 dogs at once.
4. Dogs must not go into children's play areas at any time.

Dogs must always be kept under close control, even when off the lead. If they have not been trained to respond immediately to the recall, they should not be let off the lead in any area used by other members of the public. If a dog does cause a problem, such as attacking other dogs or pets or fouling, advice can be obtained from the council by contacting the Environmental Health team by emailing environmentalhealth@eastdevon.gov.uk. If an incident is reported then full details of the situation, the dog and its owner, dates and times must be included.

CRANBROOK PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

PROFESSIONAL DOG WALKERS CODE OF CONDUCT

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. As a condition of using the public open space in the town, professional dog walkers are invited to sign up to the following voluntary code of conduct.

- To comply with the Control of Dogs Public Spaces Protection Order 2020 issued by East Devon District Council on 1 May 2020 available at www.eastdevon.gov.uk/media/3720944/pspo-2020-control-of-dogs-order-legal-signed-copy.pdf.
- to keep dogs in my charge under proper control at all times
- to ensure operatives have an identification badge stating the company name and contact details. This must be worn while exercising dogs in public spaces
- to attach visible identification to dogs in my charge, giving details of the company, in addition to the visible owner's identification tag
- to keep abreast of any forthcoming changes in legislation regarding micro-chipping of dogs and dangerous dogs
- to do everything to minimise the impact of exercising multiple dogs on other open space users, therefore avoiding causing concern to members of the public
- to provide appropriate insurance cover for the business
- to only exercise the maximum number of dogs covered by insurance
- to only transport dogs in vehicles that are fit for purpose, with current insurance, tax and MOT
- to ensure there is adequate ventilation and extraction for the size of vehicle and number of dogs carried, and efficient heat and temperature control or air conditioning
- to always carry clean, fresh drinking water and clean bowls to offer dogs after exercise
- to not restrain dogs by leashes or chains within the vehicles. Caging or containment within vehicles must be suitable for the size and number of dogs, to safely transport them. Ideally, cage doors should be fitted to the vehicle
- to have a good knowledge of dog behaviour and skills in dog training and handling
- to have a sound knowledge of canine first aid
- to be registered with a local vet
- to have a plan of action in the event of an emergency

