

Buttlands Policies

The Buttlands is an historic village green in the centre of Wells-next-the-Sea which provides residents and visitors with a unique place of recreation.

The Buttlands was transferred to Wells Town Council in 1937 following the death of the 2nd Earl of Leicester

In 1975 the Buttlands was registered under the Commons Registration Act 1965 as a Village Green, providing enhanced protection under the law.

The Buttlands is protected from enclosure, development and any act that would cause injury to the Buttlands or interrupt the use or enjoyment of the Buttlands as a place of exercise and recreation.

In 2014 Byelaws for the Buttlands were granted by the Secretary of State to help prevent some minor misdemeanours and anti-social behaviour.

The Buttlands is maintained by the Town Council at public expense.

Organised events will be allowed providing the following terms and conditions are observed.

Conditions

1. No event is allowed without the express permission of the Town Council.
2. No tent, structure or trailer will be allowed to remain in situ for more than seven days except where specific permission is granted.
3. No event can interrupt the lawful use or enjoyment of the Buttlands as a place of exercise and recreation (Section 12 of the Inclosure Act 1857).
4. No event can be allowed that would cause injury to the green (Section 12 of the Inclosure Act 1857).
5. No vehicles should be driven on the Buttlands without lawful authority (Section 34 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 & Byelaws).
6. Vehicles will only be allowed to drive on the Buttlands with the prior permission of the Council. Short notice requests may be decided by the Clerk to the Council. In some cases the Clerk will refer the request to at least two Councillors.
7. No commercial event or activity will be allowed other than those which are part of an organised charity or not for profit event.
8. At no event should a charge be made to access the Buttlands.
9. Event organisers must have suitable Public Liability Insurance.

10. The organiser of any event, which may attract large numbers exceeding 500 persons or makes use of the Town Council's Public Entertainment Licence, must notify North Norfolk District Council 12 weeks before the event.
11. Any event organiser using the Town Council Public Entertainment Licence must comply with the conditions of the licence.
12. Any event where alcohol will be sold cannot be held using the Town Council Public Entertainment Licence and will require a Temporary Event Notice from North Norfolk District Council.
13. No event organiser should allow any Statutory Nuisance such as excessive noise or accumulations of waste (Environmental Protection Act 1990).
14. No amplified music is to be allowed after 11 pm.
15. No event organiser should knowingly allow crime or disorder.

Terms

1. Applications will be made on the form provided.
2. A site plan which shows the layout of the event will be submitted with each application.
3. If the conditions are not suitable then all vehicles, including those with lawful authority, must be kept off the grass.
4. Before any large event or any event of two days or more, it will be necessary for the organiser to meet on the Buttlands with a representative of the council at least seven days prior to event or seven days prior to the erection of any structure for the event.
5. Following any large event or any event of two days or more, the organiser will meet with a representative of the council on the Buttlands to ensure there are no unresolved issues.
6. The organiser is responsible for:
 - Ensuring the terms and conditions of use are complied with.
 - For the removal of any waste or rubbish generated during the event.
 - Ensuring the electricity cabinet is left secure and the power switched off after the event.
7. The event organiser may be charged for costs relating to damage, waste disposal or any other costs incurred by the Town Council as a direct result of the event