



WOMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

OPEN SPACES POLICY

Introduction

It is the Policy of Wombourne Parish Council to protect all open space owned by the Parish Council and ensure a safe and well managed environment for all users

Key principles of this policy

Wombourne Parish Council recognises that the provision of open space and their design and layout are important for play and recreation and in contributing to the quality of the environment.

The Council will commit to providing and maintaining safe and healthy working conditions, equipment and systems of work for all employees and the Council's contractors and provide such information, training and supervision, as they need for this purpose.

Areas of open recreational space

This policy applies to:

- Bratch Park
- Brickbridge Playing Fields
- Poolhouse Play Area

Prohibitions on the use of open spaces and play areas

Wombourne Parish Council seeks to protect the physical environment of the open spaces, the wildlife and the public by putting into place, prohibitions on activities, which may cause damage to the Open Spaces and the public

The following activities are prohibited, unless the permission of the Council has been obtained in writing:

- The removal of any barrier, post, seat or any other item provided for use on the open spaces and play areas or for the maintenance of them
- The erection of any barrier, post, ride, swing or any other structure
- The removal of any plants, trees or soil from the Open Spaces
- The killing, injuring, taking or disturbing of any animal; and no person shall engage in hunting, shooting or the setting of traps or the laying of snares
- The turning out of or permitting any animal to graze on the Open Spaces
- The erection of a tent or the use of a vehicle, caravan or other structure for the purpose of camping
- The lighting of fires or the disposal of a match or any other thing likely to cause a fire
- The use of fireworks or other pyrotechnic devices
- Engaging in the sport of archery
- Care should be taken when throwing or striking a hard cricket ball with or without a bat
- The playing of golf, including the driving, chipping or pitching of a hard golf ball
- The holding of any event, be it charitable, commercial or private, without seeking the consent of the Council beforehand

- Driving or other use of any motor vehicle, motor cycle or other mechanically propelled vehicle
- The depositing or dumping of litter or other waste materials of any description

Damage caused to open spaces and play areas

Any damage or faults to items on the open spaces or any other related issues should be reported as soon as reasonably practicable to the Parish Office at Wombourne Parish Council, Council Offices, Civic Centre, Gravel Hill, Wombourne, WV5 9HA, 01902 896300.

Please note that Wombourne Parish Council reserves the right to make a reasonable charge for any damage caused to an open space or play area.

Open spaces

Brickbridge Playing Fields is leased to the Parish Council from South Staffordshire Council.

Users of this area should take care at all times.

Whilst every care is taken to maintain this site, the Council cannot be held responsible for damage caused out of their control, for example, by animals.

The playing fields are locked at night and opened each morning. Times are displayed on a notice at the playing fields and vary depending on the season.

Play Areas

Wombourne Parish Council seeks to provide play areas of a high standard to all children visiting the Play Areas.

All Parish Council owned Play areas are inspected as follows:

- Weekly– by visual inspection looking at equipment
- Quarterly – by visual inspection looking at equipment (in depth)
- Annually – by ROSPA – operational inspection

The gates into Bratch Park are opened each morning and locked each evening.

The play equipment provided by Wombourne Parish Council is suitable for children up to the age of 16 years at Bratch Park and 13 years at Poolhouse Play Area.

Users and visitors to the Play Areas can obtain more specific information on the various facilities available, by contacting the Parish Office on 01902 896300.

The safety of children whilst using and visiting the Play Areas is the responsibility of the child's parent, guardian or carer.

Any damage or faults with the play equipment, fencing, gates or other items in the Play Areas; or any other related issues should be reported as soon as reasonably practicable to the Parish Office at

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