

## **Bearsted Green Bye-Laws** **(THE COMMONS ACT, 1899)**

Bye-Laws made by The Maidstone Borough Council with respect to Bearsted Green in the Parish of Bearsted in the County of Kent in pursuance of a Scheme made by The Maidstone Rural District Council and approved by the Board of Agriculture under the provisions of the Commons Act 1899.

1. Throughout these Bye-Laws the expression "the Council" means The Maidstone Borough Council and the expression "the Green" means the pieces of land with the ponds, paths and roads thereon, commonly known as Bearsted Green, situated in the Parish of Bearsted and referred to as The Green in the Scheme approved under the Commons Act 1899 on the eighth day of December 1902 by the Board of Agriculture.
2. A person shall not, without lawful authority, dig or take turf, sods, gravel, sand, clay or other substance, on or from The Green, and shall not cut or fell or without reasonable excuse injure any gorse, heather, timber, or other tree, shrub, brushwood or other plant growing on the Green.
3. A person shall not without reasonable excuse remove or displace any seat, fence, noticeboard or other thing put up or maintained on the Green or, without reasonable excuse, remove or displace any wall fence in or upon the Green or any part of any building, barrier or railing or of any fixed or moveable seat or any monument, work of art, ornament or decoration, or of any other structure or erection on the Green.
4. A person shall not post or paint any bill, placard, advertisement or notice on any building, tree fence or noticeboard on the Green.
5. A person shall not, without lawful excuse or authority on the Green, kill, molest or intentionally 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.
6. A person shall not, without lawful authority, erect upon the Green or permit to remain on the Green without the consent of the Council or other lawful authority, any building, shed, tent, fence, post, railing or other structure, whether used in connection with playing of games or not, and any officer of the Council may remove from the Green any structure erected thereon in contravention of this Bye-Law.
7. (i) A person shall not except in the exercise of any lawful right or privilege bring or cause to be brought on to the Green any barrow, truck, machine or vehicle other than:
  - A wheeled bicycle or other similar machines;
  - A wheel-chair or perambulator drawn or propelled by hand and used solely for the conveyance of a child or children or an invalid;
  - A wheel-chair propelled by battery and used solely for the conveyance of an invalid provided that where the Council sets apart a space on the ground for the use of any class of vehicle this Bye-Law shall not be deemed to prohibit the driving in or to that space by a direct route from the entrance to the ground of any vehicle of the class for which it is set apart.(ii) A person shall not except in the exercise of any lawful right or privilege ride any bicycle or other similar machine on any part of the ground.
8. A person shall not, except in the case of a fair lawfully held, place on the Green any show, exhibition, swing, roundabout or other like thing, and any officer of the Council may remove from the Green anything placed upon the Green in contravention of this Bye-Law.
9. A person shall not light any fire on the Green.
10. A person shall not, without lawful authority, exercise or break-in any horse on the Green.
11. A person shall not, without lawful authority, turn out or permit to remain on the Green any cattle, sheep or other animals, and if any person after being required by any officer of the Council to remove any such cattle, sheep or other animals so turned out, or permitted by him to remain on the Green, shall refuse, fail, or neglect to so remove such cattle, sheep, or other animals, such officer may forthwith remove such cattle, sheep or other animals from the Green.
12. A person shall not deliver any public address in any part of the Green.
13. A person shall not on the Green use any indecent or obscene language to the annoyance of any other person on the Green.
14. A person shall not intentionally obstruct, disturb or annoy any other person in the proper use of the Green or intentionally obstruct or disturb any officer of the Council in the proper execution of his duty in relation to the Green.
15. A person shall not by operating or causing or suffering to be operated any wireless set, gramophone, amplifier tape recorder or similar instrument or by playing any musical instrument, make, cause or suffer to be made any noise which is so loud or continuous or repeated as to give reasonable cause for annoyance to other persons on the Green.
16. Every person who, within the view of any officer of the Council, shall commit an offence against any of these Bye-Laws, or against the Vagrancy Act, 1824, or who shall reasonably be suspected by any such officer of the Council of committing any such offence, may after due warning, be removed or excluded from the Green by such officer.

Every person who shall offend against any of the foregoing Bye-Laws shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of £50.

The foregoing Bye-Laws were made by The Maidstone Borough Council on 22 July 1981. Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May 1982.