



**Lambeth**  
Parks

A guide to Lambeth byelaws for parks,  
commons and open spaces

# Byelaws for pleasure grounds, public walks and open spaces

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**Byelaws made under section 164 of the Public Health Act 1875 and Sections 12 and 15 of the Open Spaces Act 1906 by the Council of the London Borough of Lambeth with respect to pleasure grounds, public walks and open spaces.**

# Part 1 **General**

## **General interpretation**

1. In these byelaws:

“the Council” means the Council of the London Borough of Lambeth;

“the ground” means any of the grounds listed in Schedule 1;

“designated area” means an area in the ground which is set aside for a specified purpose, that area and purpose to be indicated by notices placed in a conspicuous position;

“invalid carriage” means a vehicle, whether mechanically propelled or not,

- (a) the unladen weight of which does not exceed 150 kilograms,
- (b) the width of which does not exceed 0.85 metres, and
- (c) which has been constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of a person suffering from a disability, and used solely by such a person.

## **Application**

2. These byelaws apply to all of the areas listed in Schedule 1 unless otherwise stated.

## **Opening times**

3. (1) No person shall enter or remain in the ground except during opening hours.
- (2) “Opening hours” means the days and times during which the ground is open to the public indicated by a notice placed in a conspicuous position at the entrance to the ground.

# Part 2

## Protection of the ground, its wildlife and the public

### Protection of structures and plants

4. (1) No person shall without reasonable excuse remove from or displace within the ground:
  - (a) any barrier, post, seat or implement, or any part of a structure or ornament provided for use in laying out or maintenance of the ground; or
  - (b) any stone, soil or turf or the whole or any part of any plant, shrub or tree.
- (2) No person shall walk on or ride, drive or station a horse or any vehicle over:
  - (a) any flower bed, shrub or plant;
  - (b) any ground in the course of preparation as a flower bed or for the growth of any tree, shrub or plant; or
  - (c) any part of the ground set aside the Council for the renovation of turf or for other landscaping purposes and indicated by a notice conspicuously displayed.

### Unauthorised erection of structures

5. No person shall without the consent of the Council erect any barrier, post, ride or swing, building or any other structure.

### Grazing

6. No person shall without the consent of the Council turn out or permit any animal for which he is responsible to graze in the ground.

### Protection of wildlife

7. No person shall kill, injure, take or disturb any animal, or engage in hunting or shooting, or the setting of traps or nets or the laying of snares.

### Gates

8. (1) No person shall leave open any gate to which this Byelaw applies and which he has opened or caused to be opened.
  - (2) Byelaw 8(1) applies to any gate to which is attached, or near to which is displayed, a conspicuous notice stating that leaving the gate open is prohibited.

## Camping

9. No person shall without the consent of the Council erect a tent or use a vehicle, caravan or any other structure for the purpose of camping.

## Fires

- 10.(1) No person shall light a fire or place, throw or drop a lighted match or any other thing likely to cause a fire.  
(2) Byelaw 10(1) shall not apply to any event at which the Council has given permission that fires may be lit.

## Missiles

11. No person shall throw or use any device to propel or discharge in the ground any object which is liable to cause injury to any other person.

## Interference with life-saving equipment

12. No person shall except in case of emergency remove from or displace within the ground or otherwise tamper with any life-saving appliance provided by the Council.

# Part 3

## Horses, cycles and vehicles

### Interpretation of Part 3

13. In this Part:

“designated route” means a route in or through the grounds which is set aside for a specified purpose, that route and its purpose to be indicated by notices placed in a conspicuous position;

“motor cycle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle, not being an invalid carriage, with less than four wheels and the weight of which does not exceed 410 kilograms;

“motor vehicle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle other than a motor cycle or invalid carriage;

“trailer” means a vehicle drawn by a motor vehicle, and includes a caravan.

### Horses

14. (1) No person shall ride a horse in the ground except on a designated route for riding or in the exercise of a lawful right or privilege.

- (2) In any part of the ground where horseriding is permitted under Byelaw 14(1), no person shall ride a horse in such a manner as to cause danger to any other person.
- (3) Byelaw 14(1) only applies to the grounds listed in Part 1 of Schedule 1.

### **Cycling**

- 15.** No person shall without reasonable excuse ride a cycle in the ground except in any part of the ground where there is a right of way for cycles or on a designated route for cycling.

### **Motor vehicles**

- 16.** No person shall without reasonable excuse bring into or drive in the ground a motor cycle, motor vehicle or trailer except in any part of the ground where there is a right of way for that class of vehicle.

### **Overnight parking**

- 17.** No person shall without the consent of the Council leave or cause or permit to be left any motor cycle, motor vehicle or trailer in the ground between the hours of 12 midnight and 6 am.

# Part 4

## Play areas, games and sports

### **Interpretation of Part 4**

**18.** In this Part:

“ball games” means any game involving throwing, catching, kicking, batting or running with any ball or other object designed for throwing and catching, but does not include cricket;

“self-propelled vehicle” means a vehicle other than a cycle, invalid carriage or pram which is propelled by the weight or force of one or more persons skating, sliding or riding on the vehicle or by one or more persons pulling or pushing the vehicle.

### **Children’s play areas**

- 19.** No person aged 14 years or over shall enter or remain to enter in a designated area which is a children's play area unless bona fide in charge of a child under the age of 14 years.

## **Children's play apparatus**

- 20.** No person aged 14 years or over shall use any apparatus stated to be for the exclusive use of persons under the age of 14 years by a notice conspicuously displayed on or near the apparatus.

## **Skateboarding, etc.**

- 21.** No person shall skate, slide or ride on rollers, skateboards or other self-propelled vehicles except in a designated area for such activities.

## **Ball games**

- 22.** No person shall play ball games outside a designated area for playing ball games in such a manner:
- (a) as to exclude persons not playing ball games from use of that part;
  - (b) as to cause danger or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to any other person in the ground; or
  - (c) which is likely to cause damage to any tree, shrub or plant in the ground.

- 23.** It is an offence for any person using a designated area for playing ball games to break any of the rules set out in Schedule 2 and conspicuously displayed on a sign in the designated area when asked by a person to desist from breaking those rules.

## **Cricket**

- 24.** No person shall throw or strike with a bat a cricket ball except in a designated area for playing cricket.

## **Archery**

- 25.** No person shall engage in the sport of archery except in connection with an event organised by or held with the consent of the Council.

## **Field sports**

- 26.** No person shall throw or put any javelin, hammer, discus or shot except in connection with an event organised or held with the consent of the Council.

## **Golf**

- 27.** No person shall drive, chip or pitch a hard golf ball.



# Part 5 Waterways

## Interpretation of Part 5

**28.** In this Part:

“boat” means any yacht, motor boat or similar craft but not a model or toy boat;

“power-driven” means driven by the combustion of petrol vapour or other combustible substances;

“waterway” means any river, lake, pool, or body of water, and includes any fountain.

## Bathing

**29.** No person shall without reasonable excuse bathe or swim in any waterway except in a designated area for bathing and swimming.

## Ice skating

**30.** No person shall step onto or otherwise place their weight upon any frozen waterway

## Model boats

**31.** No person shall operate a power-driven model boat on any waterway except in a designated area for model boats.

## Boats

**32.** No person shall sail or operate any boat, dinghy, canoe, sailboard or inflatable on any waterway without the consent of the Council.

## Fishing

**33.** No person shall in any waterway cast a net or line for the purpose of catching fish or other animals except in a designated area for fishing.

## Pollution of waterways

**34.** No person shall foul or pollute any waterway.

## Blocking of watercourses

**35.** No person shall cause or permit the flow of any drain or watercourse in the ground to be obstructed or diverted, or open, shut or otherwise move or operate any sluice or similar apparatus.

# Part 6 Model aircraft

## Interpretation of Part 6

**36.** In this Part:

“model aircraft” means an aircraft which weighs not more than 7 kilograms without its fuel;

“power-driven” means driven by:

- (a) the combustion of petrol vapour or other combustible substances;
- (b) by jet propulsion or by means of a rocket, other than by means of a small reaction motor powered by a solid fuel pellet not exceeding 2.54 centimetres in length; or
- (c) by one or more electric motors or by compressed gas.

## General prohibition

**37.** No person shall cause any power-driven model aircraft to:

- (a) take off or otherwise be released for flight, or control the flight or such an aircraft in the ground; or
- (b) land in the ground without reasonable excuse.

# Part 7 Other regulated activities

## Trading

**38.** No person shall without the consent of the Council provide or offer to provide any service for which a charge is made.

## Excessive noise

**39.** (1) No person shall, after being requested to desist by any other person in the grounds:

- (a) by shouting or singing;
- (b) by playing on a musical instrument; or
- (c) by operating or permitting to be operated any radio, amplifier, tape recorder or similar device,

make or permit to be made any noise which is so loud or so continuous or repeated as to give reasonable cause for annoyance to other persons in the ground.

- (2) Byelaw 39(1) does not apply to any person holding or taking part in any entertainment held with the consent of the Council.

## Public shows and performances

40. No person shall without the consent of the Council hold or take part in any public show or performance.

## Aircraft, hang-gliders and hot-air balloons

41. No person shall except in case of emergency or with the consent of the Council take off from or land in the ground in an aircraft, helicopter, hang-glider or hot-air balloon.

## Kites

42. No person shall fly any kite in such a manner as to cause danger or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to any other person.

## Metal detectors

43. No person shall without the consent of the Council use any device designed or adapted for detecting or locating any metal or mineral in the ground.

# Part 8

## Miscellaneous

### Obstruction

44. No person shall:
- (a) obstruct any officer of the Council in the proper execution of his duties;
  - (b) obstruct any person carrying out an act which is necessary to the proper execution of any contract with the Council; or
  - (c) obstruct any other person in the proper use of the ground.

### Savings

45. It shall not be an offence under these Byelaws for an officer of the Council or any person acting in accordance with a contract with the Council to do anything necessary to the proper execution of his duty.
46. Nothing done in or under these Byelaws shall in any respect prejudice or injuriously affect any public right of way through the ground, or the rights of any person acting lawfully by virtue of some estate, right of interest in, over or affecting the ground or any part of the ground.

## Removal of offenders

47. Any person offending against any of these Byelaws may be removed from the ground by an officer of the Council or a constable.

## Penalty

48. Any person offending against any of these Byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

## Revocation

49. The Byelaws made by the London Borough of Lambeth on 1st November 1932 and confirmed by the Secretary of State for Home Affairs on 14th December 1932 relating to the ground are hereby revoked.

# Schedule 1 List of grounds

The grounds referred to in Byelaw 2 are as follows:

Site	Name	Address
1.	Agnes Riley Gardens	Atkins Road, London SW12
2.	Albert Embankment Gardens	Albert Embankment, London SE1
3.	Archbishop's Park	Carlisle Lane, London SE1
4.	Becondale Road Open Space	Becondale Road, London SE19
5.	Brockwell Park	Brockwell Park Gardens, London SE24
6.	Clapham Common	Windmill Drive, London SW4
7.	Claylands Road Open Space	Claylands Road, London SW8
8.	Cleaver Square	Cleaver Square, London SE11
9.	Coldharbour Lane Open Space	Somerleyton Road, London SW9
10.	Dan Leno Gardens	Patmos Road, London SW9
11.	Dumbarton Court Gardens	Brixton Hill, London SW2
12.	Eardley Road Sidings	Bates Crescent, London SW16
13.	Elam Street Open Space	Gordon Grove, London SE5
14.	Emma Cons Gardens	The Cut, London SE1
15.	Grafton Square	Grafton Square, London SW4
16.	Hatfields Open Space	Hatfields, London SE1
17.	Hillside Gardens	Hillside Road, London SW2
18.	Holmewood Gardens	Holmewood Road, London SW2
19.	Kennington Green	Kennington Road, London SE11
20.	Kennington Park	St. Agnes Place, London SE11
21.	Kennington Oval	Kennington Road, London SE11

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
22. Kirkstall Gardens	Kirkstall Gardens, London SW2
23. Knights Hill Recreation Ground	Tivoli Road, London SE27
24. Knights Hill Wood	Cedar Grove, London SE27
25. Lambeth High Street Grounds	Lambeth High Street, London SE11
26. Lambeth Walk Open Space	Fitzalan Street, London SE11
27. Lansdowne Gardens	Lansdowne Gardens, London SW9
28. Larkhall Park	Courland Grove, London SW8
29. Loughborough Park	Moorland Road, London SW9
30. Max Roach Park	Villa Road, London SW9
31. Milkwood Road Open Space	Milkwood Road, London SE24
32. Mostyn Gardens	Cowley Road, London SW9
33. Myatt's Fields Park	Cormont Road, London SE5
34. Norwood Park	Salters Hill, London SE27
35. Olive Morris Gardens	Lothian Road, London SW9
36. Palace Road Nature Garden	Palace Road, London SW2
37. Pedlar's Park	Vauxhall Walk, London SE11
38. Rush Common	Brixton Hill, London SW2
39. Ruskin Park	Denmark Hill, London SE5
40. St. John's Church Gardens	Waterloo Road, London SE1
41. St. Luke's Church Gardens	Norwood High Street, London SE27
42. St. Mark's Churchyard	Kennington Park Road, London SE11
43. St. Mary's Church Gardens	Lambeth Palace Road, London SE11
44. St. Matthew's Gardens	Brixton Hill, London SW2
45. St. Paul's Churchyard	Rectory Grove, London SW4
46. Sherwood Avenue Open Space	Glenister Road, London SW16

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
47. Slade Gardens	Stockwell Park Road, London SW9
48. Spring Gardens	Vauxhall Walk, London SE11
49. Stockwell Memorial Gardens	South Lambeth Road, London SW8
50. Streatham Common	Streatham Common South, London SW16
51. Streatham Green	Streatham High Road, London SW16
52. Streatham Memorial Gardens	Streatham Common North, London SW16
53. Streatham Vale Park	Abercairn Road, London SW16
54. Tate Gardens	Brixton Oval, London SW2
55. The Rookery, Streatham	Covington Way, London SW16
56. Trinity Gardens	Trinity Gardens, London SW9
57. Ufford Street Recreation Ground	Ufford Street, London SE1
58. Unigate Wood	Roy Namba Close, London SW16
59. Valley Road Playing Fields	Curtis Field Road, London SW16
60. Vauxhall Park	Lawn Lane, London SW8
61. Windmill Gardens	Blenheim Gardens, London SW2
62. Windrush Square	Effra Road, London SW2
63. Wyck Gardens	Millbrook Road, London SW9

### **PART 1**

**The ground referred to in Byelaw 14 are as follows:**

1. Spring Gardens Vauxhall Walk, London SE11
2. Wyck Gardens Millbrook Road, London SW9

# Schedule 2

## Rules for playing ball games in designated areas

### Byelaw 23

Any person using a designated area for playing ball games must comply with the following rules:

- (1) No person shall play any game other than those ball games for which the area has been set aside.
- (2) No person shall obstruct any other person who is playing in accordance with these rules.
- (3) Where exclusive use has been granted to a person or group of persons by the Council for a specified period, no other person shall play during that period.
- (4) Subject to paragraph (5), where the area is already in use by any person their permission to play must be sought by any other person wishing to play.
- (5) Except where they have been granted exclusive use by the Council for more than two hours, any person using the area shall vacate it if they have played continuously for two hours or more and know that any other person wishes to use the area.
- (6) No person shall play when a notice has been placed in a conspicuous position by the Council prohibiting play in that area of the ground.

Sealed with the Common Seal of the Mayor and Burgesses of the London Borough of Lambeth this 6th day on January 2005 by Order and Direction of the Council at a meeting held on 15th day of December 2004 in the presence of:

**Faith Boardman**  
Chief Executive to the Council.

The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State and shall come into operation on the sixth day of April 2005.

Signed by the authority of the Secretary of State

**P. Rowsell**  
Senior Civil Servant  
in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

9th March 2005  
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister  
London SW1E 5DU

**If you would like this information in large print, braille, audio tape or another language please contact Lambeth Parks or our special helpline on 020 7926 0791**

**NOTE:**

“These byelaws do not supersede any rights of common that apply to Clapham Common, Streatham Common or Rush Common as determined by common law or statutory Act of Parliament. These byelaws are made under legislation, which does not revoke any Acts of Parliament relating to the definition and protection of metropolitan commons, but which enables the Council to make byelaws for commons as well as heaths, parks, open spaces, public walks and pleasure grounds within the London Borough of Lambeth.”

**For more information on or to obtain further copies of the Byelaws please contact Lambeth Parks by telephone on 020 7926 9000 or by email at [parks@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:parks@lambeth.gov.uk)**