

HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL

Flying of Drones on Council Land

Higham Ferrers Town Council owns many parcels of land throughout Higham Ferrers including Saffron Road Recreation Ground, Castle Fields, Saffron Road Cemetery, the Dogs off lead area on Stanwick Road, the Town Green (opposite dogs off lead area), open space on the Kings Meadow and Nightingale Way Estates, land off Bede Close and William Steele Way, the car park on Saffron Road and the play areas in Villa Rise, Fitzwilliam Leys, Nightingale Way and Saffron Road. This is not an exhaustive list and for further information please contact the Town Hall. The guidance below applies to all Town Council owned open spaces.

We would like to draw your attention to the [Civil Aviation Authority's Drone Code](#) which provides safety advice on the flying of drones, and we expect all drone users to adhere to this code at all times. In particular we wish to draw your attention to the following text from the Drone Code:

Do not fly closer to people than 50m

This includes people in buildings and transport, including cars, lorries, trains, and boats. You must keep a minimum horizontal distance of 50m between your drone or model aircraft and people. This creates a no fly zone around people that goes all the way up to the legal height limit. It can help to think of this no fly zone as a cylinder. You must not fly over people in this no fly zone, even if you fly higher than 50m.

Never fly over people who are crowded together

A crowd is any group of people who cannot move away quickly because of the number of other people around them. Never fly over people who are crowded together, no matter what size of drone or model aircraft you have.

Keep at least 150m away from residential, recreational, commercial and industrial areas

150m is the minimum distance.
Be prepared to increase the distance if you need to do that to fly safely.

Small drones and model aircraft: below 250g, C0 or C1 class

The above rules may not apply in the same way to small drones and model aircraft that are lighter than 250g, or C0 or C1 class. Read the Drone Code for clarification on the model you are using and what rules apply to you.

Remember, you must always fly safely.

The set of guidelines above drawn directly from the CAA's Drone Code means that the parks and other sites that we own are generally **not suitable** for the flying of drones because they are too close to buildings and/or too busy with visitors to make the flying of drones safe.

For the safety of our staff and other site users please follow the Drone Code. Anyone flying drones on council sites in breach of this code will be reported to the CAA.

If you have any concerns about unmanned aircraft being used in your area, either from a safety or privacy perspective, contact the Police on the non-emergency line 101 or report at www.northants.police.uk The CAA have an agreement in place that the Police will take the lead in dealing with unmanned aircraft misuse incidents and you can find more on the CAA website www.caa.co.uk or by [clicking here](#)