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

Byelaws for pleasure grounds, public walks and open spaces
Arrangement of Byelaws

Part 1 General

1. General interpretation ........................................6
2. Application ..........................................................7
3. Opening times ....................................................7

Part 2 Protection of the ground, its wildlife and the public

4. Protection of structures and plants .......................8
5. Unauthorised erection of structures .......................9
6. Grazing ................................................................9
7. Protection of wildlife ............................................9
8. Gates ..................................................................9
9. Camping ............................................................10
10. Fires ..................................................................10
11. Missiles ............................................................10
12. Interference with life-saving equipment ............10

Part 3 Horses, cycles and vehicles

13. Interpretation of Part 3 ....................................11
14. Horses ..............................................................11
15. Cycling ..............................................................12
16. Motor vehicles ..................................................12
17. Overnight parking ..............................................12

Part 4 Play areas, games and sports

18. Interpretation of Part 4 ....................................13
19. Children’s play areas ..........................................13
20. Children’s play apparatus ...................................14
21. Skateboarding, etc. ..............................................14
22-23. Ball games .....................................................14
24. Cricket ..............................................................15
25. Archery ..............................................................15
26. Field sports .......................................................15
27. Golf .................................................................15
Part 5  Waterways

28. Interpretation of Part 5 ........................................ 16
29. Bathing .............................................................. 16
30. Ice skating ........................................................ 16
31. Model boats ...................................................... 16
32. Boats ................................................................ 17
33. Fishing .............................................................. 17
34. Pollution of waterways ....................................... 17
35. Blocking of watercourses .................................. 17

Part 6  Model aircraft

36. Interpretation of Part 6 ........................................ 18
37. General prohibition ............................................ 18

Part 7  Other regulated activities

38. Trading ............................................................. 19
39. Excessive noise ................................................ 19
40. Public shows and performances ...................... 20
41. Aircraft, hang-gliders and hot-air balloons ...... 20
42. Kites ................................................................. 20
43. Metal detectors ................................................. 20

Part 8  Miscellaneous

44. Obstruction........................................................ 21
45-46. Savings ......................................................... 21
47. Removal of offenders ...................................... 22
48. Penalty ............................................................. 22
49. Revocation ........................................................ 22

Schedule 1

List of grounds ...................................................... 23
Part 1 .................................................................. 25

Schedule 2

Rules for playing ball games in designated areas ..... 26
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,

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.
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Agnes Riley Gardens</td>
<td>Atkins Road, London SW12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Albert Embankment Gardens</td>
<td>Albert Embankment, London SE1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Archbishop's Park</td>
<td>Carlisle Lane, London SE1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Becondale Road Open Space</td>
<td>Becondale Road, London SE19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Brockwell Park</td>
<td>Brockwell Park Gardens, London SE24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Clapham Common</td>
<td>Windmill Drive, London SW4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Claylands Road Open Space</td>
<td>Claylands Road, London SW8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Cleaver Square</td>
<td>Cleaver Square, London SE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Coldharbour Lane Open Space</td>
<td>Somerleyton Road, London SW9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Dan Leno Gardens</td>
<td>Patmos Road, London SW9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Dumbarton Court Gardens</td>
<td>Brixton Hill, London SW2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Eardley Road Sidings</td>
<td>Bates Crescent, London SW16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Emma Cons Gardens</td>
<td>The Cut, London SE1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Grafton Square</td>
<td>Grafton Square, London SW4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Hatfields Open Space</td>
<td>Hatfields, London SE1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Hillside Gardens</td>
<td>Hillside Road, London SW2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Holmewood Gardens</td>
<td>Holmewood Road, London SW2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Kennington Green</td>
<td>Kennington Road, London SE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Kennington Park</td>
<td>St. Agnes Place, London SE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Kennington Oval</td>
<td>Kennington Road, London SE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Kirkstall Gardens</td>
<td>Kirkstall Gardens, London SW2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>Knights Hill Recreation Ground</td>
<td>Tivoli Road, London SE27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>Knights Hill Wood</td>
<td>Cedar Grove, London SE27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25.</td>
<td>Lambeth High Street Grounds</td>
<td>Lambeth High Street, London SE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.</td>
<td>Lambeth Walk Open Space</td>
<td>Fitzalan Street, London SE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.</td>
<td>Lansdowne Gardens</td>
<td>Lansdowne Gardens, London SW9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28.</td>
<td>Larkhall Park</td>
<td>Courland Grove, London SW8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29.</td>
<td>Loughborough Park</td>
<td>Moorland Road, London SW9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.</td>
<td>Max Roach Park</td>
<td>Villa Road, London SW9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.</td>
<td>Milkwood Road Open Space</td>
<td>Milkwood Road, London SE24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32.</td>
<td>Mostyn Gardens</td>
<td>Cowley Road, London SW9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.</td>
<td>Myatt's Fields Park</td>
<td>Cormont Road, London SE5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34.</td>
<td>Norwood Park</td>
<td>Salters Hill, London SE27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.</td>
<td>Olive Morris Gardens</td>
<td>Louthian Road, London SW9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.</td>
<td>Palace Road Nature Garden</td>
<td>Palace Road, London SW2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.</td>
<td>Pedlar's Park</td>
<td>Vauxhall Walk, London SE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.</td>
<td>Rush Common</td>
<td>Brixton Hill, London SW2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39.</td>
<td>Ruskin Park</td>
<td>Denmark Hill, London SE5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.</td>
<td>St. John's Church Gardens</td>
<td>Waterloo Road, London SE1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42.</td>
<td>St. Mark's Churchyard</td>
<td>Kennington Park Road, London SE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43.</td>
<td>St. Mary's Church Gardens</td>
<td>Lambeth Palace Road, London SE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44.</td>
<td>St. Matthew's Gardens</td>
<td>Brixton Hill, London SW2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45.</td>
<td>St. Paul's Churchyard</td>
<td>Rectory Grove, London SW4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46.</td>
<td>Sherwood Avenue Open Space</td>
<td>Glenister Road, London SW16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**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
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
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