



FRIENDS OF BARNES COMMONH

Vine Road Pavilion, Vine Road, London SW13 0NE

Email: enquiries@barnescommon.org.uk

Reg Office: 10 Palace Avenue, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6NF

Organised events and larger parties on open spaces which FoBC helps manage:

FoBC helps manage three sites in partnership with the London Borough of Richmond – the rules and regulations governing these sites follow LBRuT Parks policies and guidelines. Both Barnes Common and Leg o' Mutton are registered Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. These sites contain important habitat for rare and endangered species. Consequently any events and activities on these sites are restricted to those considered consistent with these designations. Conservation and sustainability are also important at Vine Road Rec.

The recognition that getting outdoors and taking exercise during the pandemic is hugely beneficial is a very welcome development. FoBC is committed to wellbeing within the community as well as conservation and lifelong outdoor learning, when this is properly respectful of the spaces concerned. However, the three to fourfold increase in visitor numbers during the pandemic has led to excessive wear & tear, as well as large volumes of litter, so care needs to be taken not to exacerbate these problems. Even for small parties, please make sure your impact is minimal and help by taking litter home for recycling

Listed below are guidelines set by London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and Friends of Barnes Common, relating specifically to outdoor activities on Vine Road Recreation Ground, Barnes Common and Leg o Mutton Nature Reserve. These should be read in conjunction with [LBRUT Public Space Protection Orders and byelaws](#), as well as the law on littering, and are distinct from any current Covid-related Government Guidelines on distancing, which also apply.

1. **Commercial activities:** Prior authorisation by the Parks Department of LBRuT is required for all commercial activities, events, walks, games, childcare, schooling, learning or entertainment run by companies or by sole traders that takes place on Barnes Common, Vine Road Recreation Ground or Leg o Mutton Nature Reserve. If you are unsure about your proposal, please seek clarification by emailing parkevents@richmond.gov.uk.
2. **Filming:** Prior authorisation is required from LBRuT. Please contact FilmRichmond@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk
3. **Individual personal fitness trainers.** A general exemption is applied for personal fitness trainers, who may operate without prior authorisation provided they work with no more than five individuals at a time. [Article 17](#)
4. **Private hire of open space is not permitted:** It is not possible to hire any parts of the public open spaces within the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames for private use, including for parties. (Some halls and pavilions may be available for short term hires – for enquiries about the pavilion at Vine Road please contact enquiries@barnescommon.org.uk)
5. **Smaller Private Family gatherings and parties** (maximum 50, including all children and adults) are permitted subject to the same restrictions as in 6 (b) – (g) below.

working in partnership with



Directors: M E Hildesley (Chairman), M Cnattingius, M Guskowska, J W May, A Podmore, C O Thomas
Company Registered in England & Wales No.8348124; Registered Charity Number 1153079



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6. Larger Private Family gatherings and parties in excess of 50 must be authorised by LBRuT. Please note that due to these spaces' nature conservation value, as well as being intended for open public access and therefore, authorisation is unlikely to be granted for:
 - a. Larger parties and gatherings (in excess of 50 persons)
 - b. Professionally organised parties or parties with professional entertainers or childcare providers.
 - c. Cordoning off any areas or in any way preventing the public from enjoying the open space
 - d. Setting up any structures, other than domestic garden 'gazebos' for shade or shelter for the duration of the gathering only.
 - e. Bringing any vehicles on site at any time (including any 'setting up', deliveries, ice-cream or other vendors).
 - f. Bouncy castles or other temporary structures
 - g. Generators or sound systems
7. Events: If you wish to hold an event, please check the requirements here: [Holding an Event](#)
8. Byelaws and other restrictions: All visitors to public spaces are required to observe London Borough of Richmond upon Thames [Public Space Protection Orders and byelaws](#) designed to protect the open spaces for everyone's enjoyment and for nature conservation. This includes, but is not limited to bans on the following. In addition, we ask everyone to please be respectful, leave only footprints, and do nothing to cause damage to trees, habitat, and wildlife .
 - a. Fires and Barbecues: [Article 6 Antisocial PSPO](#)
 - b. Sky Lanterns: [Article 7 Antisocial PSPO](#)
 - c. Fireworks: [Article 8 Antisocial PSPO](#)
 - d. Drones: [Article 13 Antisocial PSPO](#)
9. Litter
 - a. Whilst bins are provided for litter, capacity is limited and there is no recycling within any of our parks.
 - b. Therefore we ask everyone, whether individuals, gatherings or parties, to please take large amounts of litter and all recyclables home to allow for recycling of metals, glass, paper and recyclable plastics through domestic kerbside recycling.
 - c. Do not place Food waste and/or disposable nappies in the bins: these attract rats, foxes, and birds that raid bins and scatter material that is damaging for children and wildlife.

Mike Hildesley, Chairman Friends of Barnes Common

May 2021

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