

# **TOLLESHUNT MAJOR PARISH COUNCIL UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES POLICY STATEMENT**

Agreed at the Meeting of 2 March 2021 minute 4367.20d

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) may also be referred to as:-

Drones  
Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS)  
Model Aircraft  
Radio Controlled Aircraft

Regardless of the name used, they all share the common characteristic that the person responsible for piloting the aircraft is not onboard it. Just like any other aircraft however, an unmanned aircraft must always be flown in a safe manner, both with respect to other aircraft in the air and also to people and properties on the ground.

It is the Parish Council's Policy that UAVs shall not be flown to or from the Parish Council's land for recreational or commercial purposes without permission. Permission will only be granted where usage of a UAV aids risk reduction in the work place such as working at height, land and building survey work or to undertake a professional service such as festivals and events media. Permission would also be granted to the Emergency Services to aid in their line of work

This Policy applies to UAVs that are up to 25kg in weight and are flown under the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Open Category. For UAVs not flown under the Open Category, CAA approval to fly is required.

Detailed information on the requirements to register to fly a UAV, the weight limits, age limits for flyers, requirements for UAVs with surveillance equipment and distances of operating areas when flying UAVs can be found on the CAA website at <https://www.caa.co.uk/consumers/unmanned-aircraft-and-drones/>, and in The Drone and Model Aircraft Code can be found at <https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/drone-code>

The reasons for this policy are:-

- The proximity of our open space to neighbouring residential properties and the potential risk of causing disturbance, annoyance or harassment to occupants and the users;
- Potential risk of accident, injury to other users of our open space because of user or drone error;
- Granting permission could leave the council liable for subsequent actions brought about by drone activity when operated from Parish Council land;
- Potential risk of causing alarm, distress or harassment to the wildlife and

biodiversity within our open space.

To request permission please contact the Parish Clerk and provide the following:-

- i. A description of the purpose of the flight(s)
- ii. A copy of your public liability insurance (minimum £5 million)
- iii. A copy of your flight plan including launch and landing points
- iv. A copy of the risk assessment

Upon receipt of these documents, consideration and approval / rejection will be given within 10 working days.

**Actions to be taken by Council Staff in the event of a person found flying a UAV over Parish Council land**

Members of the Parish Council will advise the member of the public of the Parish Council policy. That policy being, UAVs (Drones) shall not be flown to or from the Parish Council's lands and they are to ask them to refrain from the activity.