

The Green, Great Horwood

The Green is an area of land located in the centre of Great Horwood within the Great Horwood Conservation Area. The Green is owned, managed and administered by Great Horwood Parish Council, who are responsible for its maintenance, protection, and upkeep. It was registered as a Village Green on 1 August 1972 (Registration Number VG 689). Great Horwood Parish Council was registered as proprietor of The Green at the Land Registry on 4 November 2011 (Title Number : BM365691).

All matters relating to The Green should be referred in the first instance to the Parish Council for consideration. Any rulings or actions will be made by them in accordance with present legislation, the Parish Council's contractual obligations and their own policies and procedures, or referred to other Authorities as deemed necessary by them.

As custodians, the Parish Council must ensure that The Green is protected against encroachment, damage and uses other than those consistent with normal enjoyment of The Green. No horse riding nor grazing of livestock is permitted. The parking of domestic cars, motor cycles, bicycles and light commercial vehicles is permitted on the hardstanding area.

Lawful and Prohibited Uses

Whilst not exhaustive, the following is a list of lawful and prohibited uses permitted on The Green.

Lawful uses include:

- Walking and dog walking
- Playing sports and pastimes
- Public gatherings for entertainment
- Village Fetes
- Carol singing and maypole dancing

The Parish Council welcomes ideas from the Parish relating to use of The Green for free, public gatherings. Full Parish Council consent (minuted in a Parish Council meeting) must always be obtained prior to any form of public gathering taking place or being promoted. Each application will be considered on its merits and against the criteria set out below.

Prohibited Uses without prior written consent from the Parish Council include:

- Any physical alteration to The Green including altering the surface of The Green
- Fencing of The Green, or otherwise making it inaccessible to the Public
- Wilful damage e.g., from vehicles, horses, or bicycles
- Grazing of cattle, sheep, horses or other animals
- The pruning, cutting down planting or removal of trees or shrubs unless at the express request or consent of the Parish Council
- The building of any temporary or permanent structure except with the authority of the Parish Council
- Camping, caravanning or any other form of overnight stays

- Lighting of fires or use of portable BBQs on The Green, except as part of events authorised or sponsored by the Parish Council
- Consumption of alcohol on The Green, except as part of events authorised or sponsored by the Parish Council

Uses which could cause damage to property or people or nearby residents are not permitted at any time. For example, the flying of model aircraft, kites or recreational drones is not permitted.

Playing of loud music through personal portable devices is not permitted at any time. Any event authorised by the Parish Council involving loud noise or music must finish by 9pm.

Dogs must always be controlled and kept on a lead where appropriate, and any waste or rubbish arising from the use of The Green must be removed.

Alcohol may only be sold on The Green as part of events authorised by the Parish Council, and on condition that the appropriate licences have been obtained from Buckinghamshire Council.

Privately run and/or financed events will not be permitted, whether open to the public or otherwise, unless prior written approval has been requested from, and granted by, Great Horwood Parish Council. The organisers of any such event must arrange their own Public Liability and Third Party Insurance, and where appropriate prepare a Risk Assessment, and provide copies of these documents to the Parish Council.

Parish Council sponsored events should be run on a "not for profit" basis, and any profits that are realised will be donated to local organisations and/or Charities approved by the Parish Council, or as part of fund-raising for Parish projects. Members of the Parish Council are not permitted to gain personally or financially, directly or indirectly, from these events.

Enforcement

Where person/persons are shown to have misused The Green, creating damage or alterations to its original fabric, the Parish Council will require those responsible to make good the damage to the satisfaction of the Parish Council or reimburse any cost incurred by the Parish Council in effecting repairs and reinstatement. In certain cases, damage or encroachment may result in legal proceedings being taken by the Parish Council.

Maintenance

Maintenance and repairs relating to The Green shall only be carried out by Contractors appointed to carry out such works by the Parish Council.

All trees, hedges shrubs and flowers planted on The Green are the property of the Parish Council. They are protected and must not be pruned, cut, damaged, or removed without prior written approval from the Parish Council.

Approved by Great Horwood Parish Council : 11 August 2025