



180 acres managed by a voluntary Board of Trustees

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE: BUILDING WORK AND THE COMMONS

Chislehurst is a highly desirable place to live, being in the greenest of all the London boroughs and including the 180 acres of Chislehurst and St Paul's Cray Commons.

The Commons are legally protected by the *Metropolitan Commons (Chislehurst and St Paul's Cray) Supplemental Act 1888*. Under this law, a Board of Trustees has responsibility for enforcing bye-laws that exist to protect the Commons and to conserve rare species and habitats.

The bye-laws prohibit, among other things, driving or parking on the Commons, erecting fences or any other structure. It is important that you are aware of these restrictions before you carry out any building work to your property if it could affect or in any way involve the Commons.

Unfortunately there have been occasions where building work carried out to properties fronting and adjacent to the Commons has resulted in illegal use and damage to the Commons. We therefore request your help and co-operation and that of your building contractors in avoiding abuse and any damage to the Commons.

This note highlights a number of issues which have given rise to problems in the past. **Please would you draw this note to the attention of your contractors, their sub-contractors and delivery drivers.** Of course, we recognise that building works will be necessary from time to time and we wish to be as helpful as possible.

Vehicles

No trucks, vans, cars or other vehicles can be driven over Commons ground, except on a recognised cross-over, or parked on Commons ground. Parking on a cross-over is not allowed. Any damage to a cross-over, its surface, associated drainage channels or the adjacent verge must be made good to our satisfaction by the property owner

Site welfare units and portable toilets

It is against the bye-laws to erect or place any structure on the Commons. This includes site welfare units and portable toilets.

Building materials, skips and waste

The Old Fire Station
Hawkwood Lane
Chislehurst
BR7 5PW
t: 0208 467 1886
e: info@chislehurstcommons.uk
w: chislehurstcommons.uk
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Building materials, skips and waste must not be stored on the Commons. Waste must be cleared immediately, otherwise it will constitute fly-tipping, which is a criminal offence. Fires on the Common are not permitted under any circumstances.

Hoardings

All site hoardings or railings must be within the boundary of the property and not located on the Commons. Solid hoardings should preferably be green or brown in colour where they face onto the Commons.

Trees

Special care must be taken to avoid damaging trees. The trunk and canopy of a tree can be damaged by vehicles driving too close to them. Trees which are close to a site entrance or crossover are particularly vulnerable. The roots of a tree (which can extend laterally the same distance as the tree is high) can be damaged by heavy vehicles driving over them or by ground work close to the tree.

Where trees are at risk, please contact the Trustees before the work commences, to discuss the best means of protection.

The Commons are within the Chislehurst Conservation Area and any work to trees such as cutting them back to help protect them may require a planning application and the approval of the Tree Officer to the London Borough of Bromley.

If your building work is likely to impact on the Commons in any way, please contact the Trustees for guidance prior to commencement of the work. Our contact details are as follows:

Address: Chislehurst Commons
The Old Fire Station
Hawkwood Lane
Chislehurst
BR7 5PW

Email: info@chislehurstcommons.uk

Phone: 0208 467 1886

4th September 2016

