

SETTLE TOWN COUNCIL

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CAMMOCK LANE AND DOG MEADOW ALLOTMENTS

RULES FOR BONFIRES

This Code of Practice has been devised to reduce as far as possible, inconvenience and nuisance to allotment holders and nearby residents alike. Compliance with this Code is obligatory for all allotment holders. If you plan to light a fire, please bear in mind that smoke can be irritating for most people and harmful for people with breathing or chest problems. If you can find no alternative to burning, please ensure that the burn is quick and clean.

CODE OF PRACTICE

- 1 Bonfires may not be lit under any circumstances during the period 1 April to 31 October inclusive, out of consideration for other allotment holders and nearby residents, the only exception being for the burning of vegetables and pernicious weeds.
- 2 Bonfires may be lit during the period 1 November to 31 March inclusive, only on the first weekend (Saturday/Sunday) of each month, unless the weather is wet, in which case bonfires may be lit on the second weekend instead.
- 3 Allotment holders who choose to light a bonfire must endeavour to ensure that the material to be burnt has been allowed to dry out thoroughly, that no material is burned which could otherwise be composted, and in particular, that no material is burned which is likely to emit dense smoke. To comply with the law, allotment holders must ensure that smoke is not allowed to drift over nearby allotments or properties adjacent to the site. Smoke can hang in the air on damp windless days and in the evening around sunset, when 'temperature inversions' develop. Please avoid fires at such times. For safety reasons, bonfires should never be left unattended, (if necessary, they must be doused with water or soil) and should be kept well away from footpaths.

BONFIRES AND THE LAW

Please note that anyone allowing smoke to drift across a road, faces a fine of up to £2000 under the Highways (Amendment) Act 1986. Under the Clean Air Act 1956, it is an offence to cause a nuisance through the creation of smoke: the maximum penalty is again £2000.

COMPLAINTS

Any individual who wishes to bring a complaint regarding bonfires should contact the Clerk to the Council in writing in the first instance, and an attempt will be made to settle the complaint at that stage. However, if it has not been possible to resolve the complaint at that time, then it will be referred to the Council.

PFL
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