WHITEHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Serving Whitehill & Bordon

DRONE POLICY

Date of adoption: 07.10.2021 Review date: 05.11.2026 Next Review: 11.2028

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Whitehill Town Council (WTC) manages the use of drones on WTC owned land to protect public safety, privacy and ensure compliance with UK aviation legislation.

2.0 WTC POLICY

WTC does not permit the launch, landing or operation of drones on any WTC owned land.

This policy was adopted by Whitehill Town Council's Executive Committee on 7 October 2021 and establishes WTC's position that drone activity on WTC owned land is prohibited

In exceptional circumstances, WTC may grant written permission (**subject to approval by the Town Clerk**) where drone use is necessary to support WTC operations that provide a clear public benefit.

Example include:

- Reducing workplace risk (e.g., working at height);
- Land or building surveys;
- Professional services requiring aerial inspection;
- Filming of promotional videos.

Why recreational and commercial requests are not permitted

- WTC could be held liable for incidents arising from drone activity on its land.
- WTC land is close to residential areas, creating risks of alarm, distress, or privacy concerns.
- There is potential for injury or property damage due to operator or equipment error.
- Whitehill and Bordon is located near military land, increasing airspace sensitivity.

3.0 OBTAINING PERMISSION

To request permission, email: info@whitehilltowncouncil.gov.uk, with:

- Purpose of the flight(s);
- Proof of public liability insurance (minimum £5 million);
- A flight plan, including launch and landing points;
- A risk assessment.

WTC will review applications and respond within 10 working days.

Unauthorised Drone Use

Anyone flying a drone on WTC land without written permission will be asked to stop immediately.
Drone legislation is enforced by the police, with enforcement action potentially taken against the operator, the remote pilot, or both, depending on the circumstances. Penalties may range from warnings to the confiscation of equipment and, in serious cases, imprisonment. Any concerns regarding the use of drones, including safety or privacy issues, should be reported to the police by calling 101, or 999 where there is an immediate threat to safety or security.