



**WHITEHILL
TOWN COUNCIL**
Serving Whitehill & Bordon

**PERMISSION FOR USE FOR METAL
DETECTING FOR
INDIVIDUALS ON COUNCIL
OWNED LAND/S**

Whitehill Town Council have developed this guidance for individuals on the permitted use of metal detectors on Council owned land and offer best practice advice for use of metal detectors on privately owned land.

1. PERMISSION FOR USE FOR METAL DETECTING ON COUNCIL OWNED LAND

You must obtain permission before venturing on to any Council owned or Council leased land. This can be done by contacting info@whitehilltowncouncil.gov.uk.

Do not undertake metal detecting activity on any Council owned or Council leased land without permission.

No permission will be granted for Metal Detecting on any Council owned land/s.

Any application will be refused in accordance with this policy.

2. EXCLUDED COUNCIL OWNED LAND

It is illegal for anyone to use a metal detector on a protected area (e.g. Scheduled Archaeological Sites, SSSI, or Ministry of Defence property) without permission from the appropriate authority. Throughout the Council area there are other locally sensitive sites where the Council will not permit the use of metal detectors. These sites are subject to change and applicants will be refused on application

3. PERMISSION FOR USE FOR METAL DETECTING ON PRIVATELY OWNED LAND

Do not trespass or you will be at risk of personal prosecution. The Council cannot give permission on privately owned land as permission must be gained from the land owner. Confirmation of land ownership can be confirmed at www.landregistryservices.com

4. GENERAL INFORMATION

If you have received permission to use a metal detector on non-council land, please can you ensure you adhere to the following;

- Respect the Country Code - Do not leave gates open, and do not damage crops or frighten animals.
- Wherever the site, do not leave a mess or an unsafe surface for those who may follow. It is perfectly simple to extract a coin or other small object buried a few inches below the ground without digging a great hole. Use a suitable digging implement to cut a neat flap (do not remove the plug of earth entirely from the ground), extract the object, reinstate the grass, sand or soil carefully.
- If you discover any live ammunition or any lethal object such as an unexploded bomb or mine, do not disturb it. Mark the site carefully and report the find to the local police and landowner.
- Help keep Britain tidy. Safely dispose of refuse you come across.
- Report all unusual historical finds to the landowner and acquaint yourself with the current NCMD (National Council for Metal Detecting Code of Conduct) policy relating to the Voluntary Reporting of Portable Antiquities. Further information is available at the links below.

<https://www.ncmd.co.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/treasure>

- Acquaint yourself with the definitions of Treasure contained in the Treasure Act 1996 and its associated Code of Practice, making sure you understand your responsibilities.
- Remember that when you are out with your metal detector you are an ambassador for your hobby.