WHITEHILL
TOWN COUNCIL
Serving Whitehill & Bordon

GREENSPACES MANAGEMENT POLICY

Date of adoption: 07.04.2025 Review date: 05.11.2026 Next Review: 11.2028

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. Whitehill Town Council (the "Council") has a 80-year lease for Bordon Inclosure, from the Defence Infrastructure Organisation, who retain the freehold.

1.2. In its initial business plan to East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) for an S106 grant to fund the long term investment plan to fund management of Bordon Inclosure and provide an engagement Ranger for Broxhead and Kingsley common, the Council agreed Whitehill Town Council (WTC) will have quarterly meetings with Deadwater Valley Trust (DVT) and South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) whom we have service contracts in place to manage the land and engage with the public reporting to the New Greenspace Sub-Committee.

1.3. The Council's governance structure has evolved over the past decade. As of 2025, a quarterly Greenspace Sub-Committee meeting is no longer the Council's preferred method to oversee Bordon Inclosure and Broxhead and Kingsley Common. The Council's day-to-day operational relationship with its service provider DVT and SDNPA is managed through officers and our councillor strategic oversight can be managed by our Executive Committee, which is our main decision-making committee, chaired by the Leader.

1.4. EHDC were consulted on the proposal to abolish the Greenspace Sub-Committee and advised in writing there is no objection, but they should like to be invited to future Executive Committee meetings, where management of Bordon Inclosure and Broxhead and Kingsley Common is a standing item at least quarterly.

1.5. The Greenspace Sub-Committee has been abolished, effective 17 April 2025.

1.6. Deadwater Valley Nature reserve is not subject to the same requirements as Bordon Inclosure as is funded through direct council tax precept but is included under this policy with reference Appendix A.

2. OVERSIGHT AND DECISION MAKING

2.1. The day-to-day operational relationship between the Council and any service provider delegated to The Town Clerk & General Manager (the "Town Clerk").

2.2. The Executive Committee terms of reference cover all decision-making required under this policy and will fulfil the functions of the former Greenspace Sub-Committee terms of reference, outlined in Appendix A.

2.3. The Executive Committee shall ensure that at least four times per annum, it covers the requirements under Appendix A that relate to Bordon Inclosure and Broxhead and Kingsley Common, as agenda item(s).

2.4. The Executive Committee may designate a member to be a greenspaces lead ("Greenspaces Lead").

2.5. The Town Clerk shall consult with the Greenspaces Lead regarding significant operational decisions relating to Bordon Inclosure, Broxhead/Kingsley Common and Deadwater Valley Nature Reserve. The Greenspaces Lead shall have no Executive Authority.

2.6. As soon as reasonably practical, the Town Clerk shall invite EHDC to attend Executive Committee meetings referenced under sub clause 2.3.

2.7. The Town Clerk may delegate their responsibilities under this clause 2 to the Deputy Town Clerk & Operations Manager or any other member of staff.

APPENDIX A

The management and maintenance of the Bordon Inclosure (A Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space, SANG) to include the management and monitoring of the financial resources provided.

The management and monitoring of the effectiveness of the SANG & Strategic Access Management and Monitoring (SAMM).

The monitoring of the services of the Deadwater Valley Trust on the Bordon Inclosure and Deadwater Valley Local Nature Reserve.

The management of the Special Protection Areas requirements as shown in section 6.6 of the Town Council's Business plan to include the SANG management plan for access management of Broxhead and Kingsley Commons (under the SAMM arrangements agreed with Natural England and East Hampshire District Council).

To consider the Town Council's approach to other green space that may be devolved to the Town Council and the management of any developer's contributions received and make any recommendations to a full meeting of Council.

To receive appropriate reports from external representatives on relevant matters to the areas of work of this Committee.

To invite wider stakeholders to meetings of the Committee to contribute to discussions.

Be empowered to liaise with anybody, organisation or department of any local authority, utility board or other stakeholders on any matter within the Committee's area of responsibility.

To be the liaison with the Whitehill & Bordon Regeneration Company regarding the Hogmoor Inclosure that they manage of which the Town Council who has a community interest in.