

## 1. Purpose

The Parish Council owns and manages a number of public open spaces, recreational facilities, woodlands, burial grounds and amenity areas on behalf of the community.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Identify the authorised access points to land managed by the Parish Council.
- Define the permitted use of those access points.
- Protect public safety and the integrity of Parish Council assets.
- Prevent the creation of unauthorised access points onto Parish Council land.

Nothing within this policy shall affect any statutory public rights of way, bridleways or highways.

## 2. General Principles

Access to Parish Council land shall be via designated entrances and access points only.

Where vehicular access is restricted, such access shall only be permitted with the prior written consent of the Parish Council, except where emergency services, utility providers or authorised contractors are undertaking official duties.

The Parish Council reserves the right to temporarily restrict or close access to any site for maintenance works, public safety reasons, organised events or emergency situations.

No additional access points may be created without the express written permission of the Parish Council.

## 3. Authorised Access Points

<b>The Quarry, Washdyke Lane</b>	Pedestrian access is available via the two designated entrances from Washdyke Lane located at either end of the Lincolnshire Fence. Vehicle access is via a designated gate.
<b>Vicars Wood</b>	Pedestrian access is available from All Saints Lane; The Beckside path and the connecting public footpath.
<b>Bishops Palace Bishops Meadow Burial Ground The Swathe</b>	Pedestrian access is available via the two entrances from the High Street and the bridleway serving The Swathe and Bishops Palace. Access from The Dales is permitted solely for authorised maintenance purposes in accordance with arrangements agreed with adjoining landowners. Vehicle access is available via The School
<b>Mulsanne Park</b>	Pedestrian access is available from Field Close; two entrances from the adjoining bridleway, Poachers Meadow; and the Stirlin Homes development. The gated vehicular entrance from Nettleham Bowls Club is reserved exclusively for Parish Council use and authorised contractors. Vehicular access to the Pavilion car park is permitted only during authorised opening hours. Vehicular access beyond the car park and into other areas of the park is prohibited unless expressly authorised by the Parish Council.
<b>The Larches Play Area</b>	Pedestrian access is available via the two designated gated entrances.
<b>Bill Baileys Field</b>	Pedestrian access is available from Scothern Road, Orchard Way and Crescent Close. The vehicular access point at Crescent Close is secured by a bollard may only be used with prior authorisation from the Parish Council.
<b>The Green</b>	Use of The Green is governed by the Parish Council's separate Green Policy.
<b>Green Lane</b>	Green Lane is a public bridleway primarily intended for pedestrian and equestrian use. Lincolnshire County Council is the Highway Authority responsible for the route and has erected signage advising that the lane is unsuitable for vehicular traffic. The Parish Council undertakes maintenance of vegetation and associated amenity features to support safe use by pedestrians and horse riders. Access is available from Deepdale Lane, Watermill Lane, The Rowans and the adjoining Police Headquarters site.
<b>Public Footpaths and Bridleways</b>	Except where specifically stated within this policy, public footpaths and bridleways are governed by the relevant highway and rights of way legislation and are not regulated by this policy.

## 4. Unauthorised Access

The Parish Council will not normally permit the creation of new access points from private land onto Parish Council property.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- New gates;
- Openings through fences or hedges;
- Vehicular crossings; and
- Any other physical alterations intended to provide access.

Any unauthorised works may result in enforcement action, including the reinstatement of Parish Council property at the responsible party's expense.

## 5. Requests for Temporary Access

Residents, adjoining landowners and occupiers who require temporary access to Parish Council land for maintenance, repairs or other legitimate purposes should contact the Parish Council in advance.

The Parish Council will consider all reasonable requests on their individual merits and may impose conditions where appropriate.