

Holton Orchard – A Users Guide

Holton Parish has an established orchard which was purchased for the benefit and enjoyment of parishioners in 2002. In 2023 play equipment for children was installed which includes slides, swings and other interactive and developmental equipment.

The orchard and play equipment are for the enjoyment primarily of parishioners but are open to all and to host village functions. In addition, it may also be used by hirers of the Village Hall where outside space is required subject to the conditions detailed below.

The Parish Council welcomes and encourages the use of the Orchard by all under the general principle that the facility is treated with care whilst ensuring that due attention is paid to respecting the neighbours of the Orchard site.

General Principles for Use:

- People are encouraged to enjoy the green open space, respecting other users of the facility.
- Children's play equipment should be used in accordance with its design intent and avoid damage. Any damage identified should be reported to the Parish Council clerk@holtonoxford-pc.gov.uk
- Notice of village functions in the orchard will be given in advance
- The following are not permitted within the orchard:
 - Climbing on trees and outdoor furniture
 - Animals, other than assistance dogs.
 - Fires, barbecues or cooking equipment.
 - Vehicles of any type.
- Users of the Orchard should clean up after themselves and remove all litter.
- Excessive noise or music is to be avoided and due care taken to ensure that neighbours are not overly impacted by the users of the facility.
- Use of the orchard is discouraged during the hours of darkness.

Use in association with Village Hall Hire:

- Hirers of the village hall may also hire the Orchard in association with their booking without charge subject to the following conditions:
 - No additional play or sports equipment is to be used within the facility.
 - No erection of tents, marquees or other mobile structures.
 - Barbeques, fires or cooking equipment are not permitted.
 - The installation of bunting, balloons or other decorations is not permitted.
 - If music is played, the volume should be kept to a reasonable level to respect the privacy of neighbours and must cease by 21.00.
 - Use is not exclusive and other users may be present in the orchard
 - Use of the orchard in association with events organised for commercial purposes or financial gain will require prior approval from the Parish Council.

- Should hirers of the village hall wish to deviate from the conditions stated above then this is to be discussed with the Village Hall Booking Secretary who may approach the Parish Council via the Clerk for guidance. If a deviation from the conditions is granted, further hire charges for the use of the Orchard may be applied. Such charges will be levied on a case-by-case basis to reflect the use requested and to cover the additional maintenance likely to be required.