



SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Release of Balloons Policy

Version	Adopted Policy Date	Minute Reference	Review Date
1	20.06.22	A & S 070-22	October 2022 (to coincide with Council's annual review of policies)

Introduction

As part of the Town Council's pledge to actively address climate change and to be carbon neutral by 2030, Council has considered its total carbon footprint and that of those using Town Council facilities. It further notes the potential harm and damage to wildlife and endangerment to animals that balloons can cause.

In consideration of this broader impact, Council wishes to place a total ban on the release of sky lanterns and helium balloons used or released within Town Council premises; this includes (but not limited to), the Common, Anglo-American Playing Fields, Herberts Farm, Lime Avenue and all other outdoor spaces.

Commitment

Saffron Walden Town Council pledges the following:

1. To place a total ban on the release of sky lanterns and helium balloons on land owned or managed by Saffron Walden Town Council
2. To review the terms under which Council land and premises are let to the public with a view to prohibiting their release
3. To write to Uttlesford's MP urging action at a national level
4. To display notices publicly in Council premises raising awareness of the risks posed.
5. To treat reports of release of sky lanterns and helium balloons as potential littering offences.