

PURTON PARISH COUNCIL	SKY LANTERNS POLICY
APPROVED BY COUNCIL:/...../..... <i>This policy will be reviewed once every 5 years unless there is a significant change in legislation or staffing requirements</i>	
Signed by Clerk:	Dated:

1. Purpose and Scope

This policy sets out Purton Parish Council’s ban on the use and sale of sky lanterns (also known as Chinese lanterns) on land or property owned and/or controlled by Purton Parish Council. This includes land that the Parish Council are responsible for as Trustees of the Purton War Memorial and Village Centre Charity no 305562 and Purton Institute and Village Hall Charity no 203202 and the Play Close Charity no 203201.

2. Background/Risks

The increased use of sky lanterns has a harmful impact on livestock and on the environment due to littering. They have been the cause of many fires with resultant injuries and damage to the environment. Farmers and other landowners have to clear up the remnants of sky lanterns from their fields and there is unpredictability over where the lit lantern will land. Fields of standing crops, hay and straw stacks, farm buildings housing animals, thatched roofs plus lots more are all at a significant risk of being set alight. Sky lanterns can cause suffering or even kill animals and livestock. Not just by fire, sky lantern debris can cause immense stress and injury.

3. Support

The Fire Service, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) and many other organisations including the Marine Conservation Society, Women’s Food and Farming Union (WFU), Soil Association and National Farmers Union (NFU) all support a ban on sky lanterns.

4. Policy

The Parish Council will refuse permission for the release of any sky lanterns from any Council or Charity owned land regardless of the purpose for the release; Refuse the sale of any sky lanterns at any Council event or Charity property event. The Parish Council will ensure that all relevant officers involved in the organisation and granting of permissions for outdoor events on Council owned land are aware of and implement this policy.

Review Date	Review Detail
10 th August 2020	Adoption of new policy