

## Draft Version (for immediate use)

### Gwithian Green Local Nature Reserve - Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council

#### Request to carry out research and/or onsite educational activity/visit pro-forma

This request form is **only** for use by groups (or individuals) who wish to undertake research and/or educational activities/visits at the Gwithian Green Local Nature Reserve. It is **not** intended for the visiting general public.

The **alteration/disturbance of habitats and/or removal of flora and fauna specimens** for any purpose including, scientific and/or education reasons is prohibited on this site, unless **prior** authorisation is granted by the **Parish Council/Gwithian Green Advisory Group**.

Scientific research and educational groups must seek prior permission from the Parish Council/Gwithian Green Advisory Group, if in order to aid their studies, **it is deemed necessary to alter/disturb habitats and/or remove specimens (living or dead) from the "Green"**.

#### **Legislative Protection**

**The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981** is the primary legislation **protecting animals, plants and habitats** in the UK. More specifically, within the act, people are restricted from causing harm to named protected species (including their removal), even if it is considered entirely unintentional. The legislation covers four main areas:

- 1) Wildlife protection, including protection of wild birds, their eggs and nests, protection of other animal and protection of plants.
- 2) Nature Conservation, Countryside & National Parks.
- 3) Public Rights of Way.
- 4) Miscellaneous provisions.

#### **Wild plants and the law**

All wild plants are given some protection under the laws of the United Kingdom.

It is illegal to uproot any wild plant without permission from the landowner or occupier. Uproot is defined as to *'dig up or otherwise remove a plant from the land on which it is growing'*. This is whether or not it actually has defined roots. For the purposes of the legislation, the term 'plant' includes algae, lichens and fungi as well as bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) and vascular plants.

All plants are the legal property of someone. Under the 1968 Theft Act, it is an offence to uproot plants for commercial purposes without permission of the land owner or occupier. This protection is in addition to that provided by the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

Some plants are specifically protected by law and cannot be picked or disturbed unless you have the appropriate licence (see Vascular plants protected under Schedule 8 of the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act).

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Photography, painting and sketching is encouraged. But please take care if you need to 'expose' your target plant/specimen, as you may inadvertently remove rarer plants or adversely alter the surrounding microclimate. Try to avoid crushing vegetation in order to gain access, having regard for mosses, liverworts, lichens and fungi.

**To apply for Parish Council authorisation please complete the form on the following page.**

**Wherever possible - Notice of a minimum of 21 days should be given prior to any intended activity and/or visit to Gwithian Green Local Nature Reserve.**

## Gwithian Green Local Nature Reserve - Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council

### Request to carry out research and/or onsite educational activity/visit pro-forma

**Part 1:** Name of organisation (or individual) \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 2:** Please state the date(s) and times of your proposed visit(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3:** List the **tasks** you propose to carry out (add an additional page if required).

If you are **not** undertaking any specific **tasks** then please give your **reasons** for the visit e.g. observational visit.

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**Part 4:** State how it is intended to carry out each proposed task above (add an additional page if required).

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**Part 5:** Are you seeking authorisation to remove specimens (living or dead)? Yes ☐ ☐ No

(If answering No to above, please go directly to question 8)

**Part 6:** If answering **yes** to above, give details of the specimens you are seeking authorisation to potentially remove (add an additional page if required).

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**Part 7:** State reasons and benefits for seeking authorisation to remove each specimen given above (add an additional page if required).

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**Part 8:** Please tick the adjacent box to confirm that risk assessments will be carried out prior to the proposed visit and activities being undertaken, should authorisation be granted?

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#### **Part 9: Contact details**

Address of Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

The request form should be forwarded to the Parish Clerk – Vida Perrin [clerk@ggpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@ggpc.org.uk) 01736 850129

Note: It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary permissions required to undertake the operations lawfully.

### Useful references/links

- A Code of Conduct for Collecting Insects and Other Invertebrates.  
<https://www.royensoc.co.uk/invertebrate-link/>

Invertebrate Link (JCCBI) (2002) *A Code of Conduct for Collecting Insects and Other Invertebrates*. British Journal of Entomology and Natural History 15(1): 1-6.

(Invertebrate Link (JCCBI) was formed in 1968 as the Joint Committee for the Conservation of British Insects).

- Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland Code of Conduct for picking, collecting, photographing and enjoying wild plants. [https://bsbi.org/wp-content/uploads/dlm\\_uploads/Code-of-Conduct-v5-final.pdf](https://bsbi.org/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/Code-of-Conduct-v5-final.pdf)
- Wildlife Trusts - <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/uk-wildlife-law>
- Natural England - <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england>
- Countryside Code - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code/the-countryside-code-advice-for-countryside-visitors#enjoy-the-outdoors>
- Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland - <https://bsbi.org/>

**Please note: all activities by visiting groups/individuals are undertaken at their own risk.**

The Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council/Gwithian Green Advisory Group will consider the request and proposals provided. The Clerk will then confirm to the named contact, the decision of the Gwinear-Gwithian Parish Council/Gwithian Green Advisory Group, within 7 working days.

**Thank you for your enquiry**

**We hope you enjoy your proposed visit to the Gwithian Green Local Nature Reserve**