



Hart

DISTRICT COUNCIL

**COUNTRYSIDE SERVICES
FISHING AND BOAT POLICY
Fleet Pond Nature Reserve**

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SECTION 1: Policy Statement

Permitted Fishing Sites

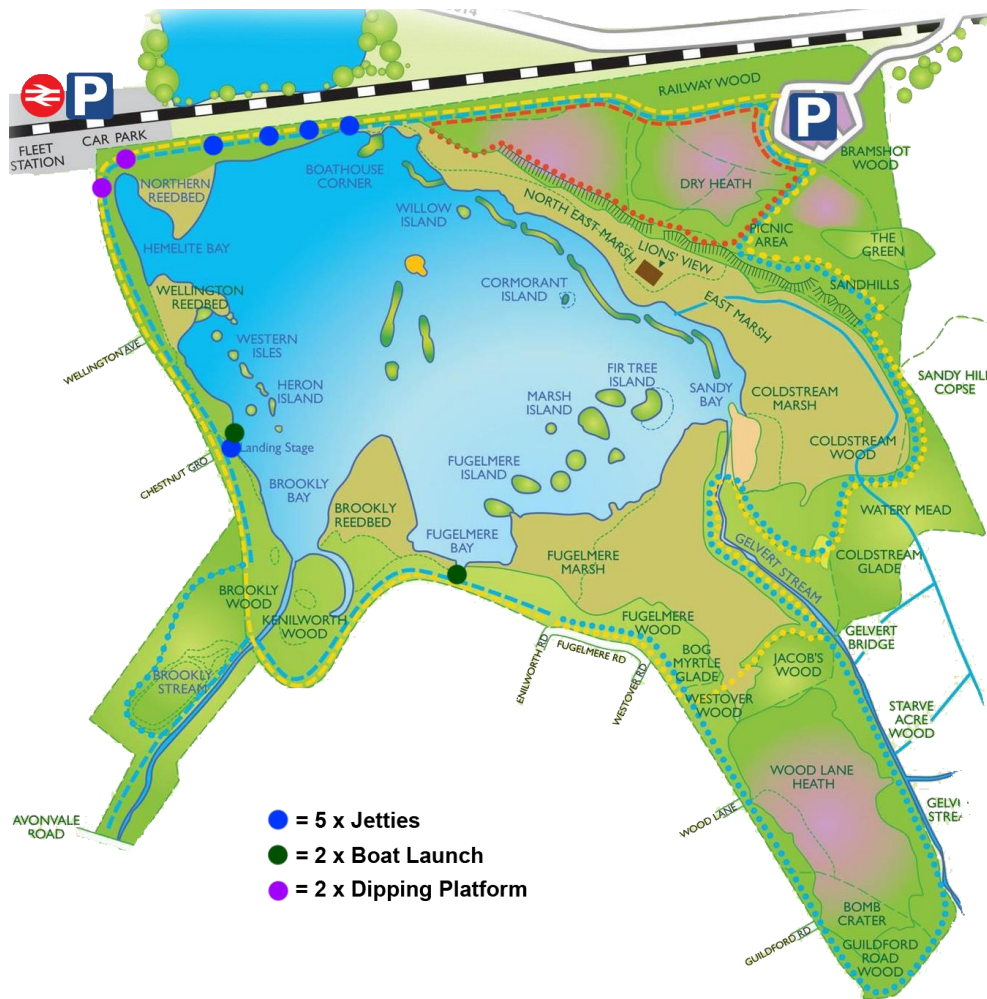
Fishing is only permitted at [Fleet Pond Nature Reserve](#) following the below regulations. Fishing is not permitted at any other Green Space owned and managed by Hart District Council.

Fleet Pond Nature Reserve Description

Fleet Pond Nature Reserve is a popular lake for both land and boat fishing with five fishing jetties which visitors can fish from including one T shaped dipping platform which can also be used for fishing, along with two boat launch jetties. Fishing is permitted by annual season permit or day ticket only and in line with the Environment Agency Rod License rules and Fleet Pond Nature Reserve's Fishing Regulations.

Both land and boat fishing must be carried out responsibly. Fleet Pond Nature Reserve is primarily a SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) and any recreational activities that take place must be compatible with the conservation interest.

Site Map with Jetties



Where to Purchase a Permit

Land and Boat Fishing Permits are available on the Councils web site at [Fleet Pond Nature Reserve SSSI | Hart District Council](#). Boating and Boat Fishing is permitted with a boating permit only.

Fishing Open and Closed Information

The fishing season runs from 15 June – 15 March and Fleet Pond Nature Reserve is patrolled by Hart Countryside Services staff several times a week and ad hock visits by the Environment Agency.

The water may be closed at any time under the discretion of Hart District Council or the Environment Agency, e.g., due to a Blue Green Algae outbreak. Notification to Anglers will be via social media, the Council's web site and on-site posters.

Declaration

Neither the Council nor its Officers, servants or agents will accept liability in contract or tort or in any other way whatever in respect of any damages, destruction, loss or injury to person or property sustained directly or indirectly in the exercise of any right herein given.

SECTION 2: Fishing at Fleet Pond Nature Reserve

Fishing Regulations

- Fishing is only permitted from 1 hour before dawn to 1 hour after dark.
- Only 2 rods are permitted per person.
- Anyone over the age of 12 is required by law to have an Environment Agency Rod Fishing License.
- Fishing must only be from authorized jetties.
- Pathways, bridges and facilities must be kept clear from obstruction.
- No rods are to be left unattended.
- Lead shot is not permitted.
- Please respect other users by keeping radios/music turned down.
- No camping.
- No fires or barbecues.
- No weapons including catapults.
- No litter or pollution.
- No Barbed Hooks.
- No fish whatsoever are to be killed or taken away from Fleet Pond Nature Reserve.
- No litter or discarded fishing tackle of any description to be left because of the danger to wildlife.
- All fishing equipment should be cleaned, disinfected and dried before bringing it to the pond and likewise if taken to be used elsewhere.
- All anglers must be in possession of a landing net and forceps or a disgorging.
- Anglers must have an unhooking mat of a size suitable for the fish targeted.
- No fish are to be introduced from other waters.
- All permits must be submitted along with appropriate identification when requested.

- All permit holders must comply with any condition laid down by Hart District Council, its Wardens and Officers.
- Permits are not transferable.
- Boating Policy - see below, must be complied with.

SECTION 3: Boating at Fleet Pond Nature Reserve

Boat Fishing Regulations

- The launching of boats is to only be from the landing stage provided at the end of Chestnut Grove or near Kenilworth Road and Fuglemere Road – see Map on page 3.
- Buoyancy aids to be worn at all times.
- The use of Sailing and Fossil fuel Powered boats is prohibited.
- Canoes shall not exceed 6 meters and dinghies shall not exceed 4 meters lengthways.
- The maximum number of occupants per boat is 4, but this can be reduced in smaller boats.
- The maximum number of 5 boats on the water at one time.
- People who use boats to fish are also bound by the Fishing Policy.
- Keep boats 20 meters clear of the reedbeds, and islands at all times!
- Do not walk on or moor next to the islands!

SECTION 4: Public Fishing Risk Assessment

Please read and follow the below risk assessment when on site.

HEALTH AND SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT

Department: **Countryside Services**

Assessor Name: **B. Robinson**

Authorised by: **J. Cheadle**

Date reviewed: **15/06/2023**

Activity: **Public Fishing (permitted)**

Risk No:	What are the issues that present a Hazard	Who could be at risk?	Precautions and or Controls to follow to reduce risk.	Risk Level	Additional Controls and or actions required
01	Deepwater or drowning	Fisherperson, Member of Public (MoP), Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglers only to fish from designated pegs or boats. • Life jackets or buoyancy aids to be worn by persons in boats. • Regulations given with permits. • Throw lines installed in tubes on northern embankment of the pond. • Safety rails at designated jetties. • Under 16s accompanied by adults. 	4x2=8 MED	
02	Exposure to waterborne infections i.e. Weils disease, Tetanus, Bluegreen algae.	Fisherperson, MoP, Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notices on main notice boards, web site links and issue with permits. • Water closed to fishing if Blue green algae bloom. • Gloves to protect hands from cuts. • All wounds to be covered with waterproof plasters. • Hands to be washed after visit and before eating. • Vaccinations – Tetanus, Hep A, Hep B. 	3X3=9 MED	
03	Personal Injury: cuts, grazes, minor falls, slips and trips. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uneven surfaces 	Fisherperson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No unprotected feet – suitable closed toed footwear. • Carry basic first aid kit. • Waterproof plasters for cuts and or grazes. • Do not run. 	1x3=3 LOW	
04	Injuries caused by fishing tackle i.e. hooks and flies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easily penetrates skin, open to infection. • Eye injury. 	Fisherperson, MoP, Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not leave hazardous items in the way of the public or wildlife. • Caution should be used when handling, tying on or removing hooks. • Rusty hooks should be avoided. • Wear safety glasses. 	2x2=4 LOW	

05	Getting on or off boats, moving around on boats and other boats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Falling into water Slips and falls. Drowning 	Fisherperson, Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take care to ensure balance equally distributed. Take particular care when getting on, off or moving around – do not lean too far over edge. Do not overload with weight. Wear a life jacket or suspender. When manoeuvring near other boats. Boat handlers should adhere to the Rules of the waterways and drive on the right and pass other boats port to port. 	1x2=2 LOW	
06	Animal interaction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small cuts or scrapes Infection from open cuts or zoonotic diseases 	Fisherperson, MoP, Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep distance from swans and geese particularly during breeding season. Members of the public should keep dogs on a lead or under close control to prevent disturbance. 	2x1=2 LOW	
07	Non-licenced fishing or imposed restrictions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accidental collision High numbers on the water at once On the water when unsafe or hazards present 	Fisherperson, MoP, Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Byelaws and policy apply. Copies available online and link given out with permits. Anglers only to fish from designated pegs and or boats. Maintains responsible fishing standard. 	1x1=1 LOW	Ranger to check that fisherperson is licensed when out on site.
08	Weather: poor visibility, cold, rain, sunny, hot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hypothermia Heat stroke Slippery surfaces 	Fisherperson, MoP, Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If weather is severe cancel visit. Wear suitable clothing and bring appropriate protection against elements i.e. waterproof coat, gloves, hat, water and sun block. During peak summer – seek shade and refrain from activities. 	1x3=3 LOW	
09	High winds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boat capsizing Injury from collision Head injuries, concussion 	Fisherperson, Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always remain seated in the boat. Return to boat dock via the shelter of the nearest bank even if this means a longer return journey. 	3x3=9 MED	

10	Falling into water. Slippery surfaces and steep banks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drowning • Slipping and or falling 	Fisherperson, MoP, Staff and Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check gear before use. • Notify others of location. • Boarding from designated jetties only, make use of handrails for stability. • Familiarisation of throw lines. • Carry appropriate safety gear (e.g. life jackets). 	3x3=9 MED	
11	Fishing at night or in the dark. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor visibility • Missing or lost person • Drowning • Slipping and or falling 	Fisherperson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our fishing policy states that fishing is only permitted within daylight hours. From 1 hour after sunrise to 1 hour before sunset. 	1x3=3 LOW	

LIKELY SEVERITY

Matrix - Severity Score

- 5 = Multiple death and widespread destruction
- 4 = A death or major injury
- 3 = RIDDOR >3-day injury
- 2 = First aid injury
- 1 = Insignificant injury

Matrix - Likelihood of Occurrence

- 5 = Very likely
- 4 = Likely
- 3 = Quite possible
- 2 = Possible
- 1 = Not likely

Precautions or Controls

- a. Training
- b. Recognition
- c. Supervision
- d. Restricted access
- e. Protective equipment

- f. Regular maintenance
- g. Procedural notes, codes, rules

THE RISK LEVEL MATRIX

1. The risk level is reached by multiplying the weighting scores of the SEVERITY x LIKELIHOOD values in the risk matrix below.
2. The ‘action by’ date is determined by the score zone achieved in the Matrix below i.e., 3 x 3 = medium. The time periods are a guide only and the low and medium periods could be extended.

	Multiple death	Death or major injury	Riddor >3-day injury	Injury requiring First Aid	Insignificant likelihood of injury
LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURENCE	5	4	3	2	1
Very likely	25	20	15	10	5
Likely	20	16	12	8	4
Quite possible	15	12	9	6	3
Possible	10	8	6	4	2
Not likely	5	4	3	2	1

Zone High	Score 15 to 25 – Immediate action required
Zone Medium	Score 8 to 12 – Action within 1 to 3 months
Zone Low	Score 1 to 6 – Action within 3 to 12 months

SECTION 5: Contact info

Website: [Home | Hart District Council](#)

Contact Number: 01252 622122

Email: countryside@hart.gov.uk