



THE NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Use of Drones Policy

Introduction

There is increasing interest in the use of drones to film or photograph heritage locations. While drones can assist in surveying and caring for the Trust's sites and can offer new perspectives on them, it is necessary to balance this potential with the need to care for and conserve our sites, and maintain the safety of visitors, wildlife and livestock.

Background

Few non-commercial users have the correct training or permission from the Civil Aviation Authority to operate drones and, if a drone were to cause damage or harm, pilots generally do not have the correct insurances to compensate those affected.

Under CAA regulations, drones should not be flown over people and as our sites are open access we cannot guarantee an area is ever completely empty.

Drones should not be flown near property and the fragile nature of Trust properties makes the risk of damage a real concern.

Some Trust sites have wildlife or farm animals present which are sensitive to disturbance and could be detrimentally affected by the presence of drones.

Many drones have cameras attached and these could infringe data protection laws (filming people without permission).

The presence of drones can be detrimental to the enjoyment of our sites by other visitors.

We therefore do not allow drone flying from or over Trust land except by contractors commissioned by the Trust for a specific purpose or who have sought our permission, who satisfy CAA criteria, have the correct insurances, and are operating under controlled conditions.

Further information

If you are interested in flying a drone for filming or surveying purposes at a Trust site, please contact us to discuss your project: info@norfarchtrust.org.uk

Please note: for all projects for commercial and personal filming use, drone flying will be treated as a commercial hire and fees will apply as appropriate.



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1. The use of UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) or drones is not permitted on or over sites owned or managed by Norfolk Archaeological Trust without prior approval from the Trust.
2. If use is approved by the Trust then the following conditions will apply:
 - Current CAA legislation states that drones are not permitted to be flown within 50 metres of any vessel, vehicle or structure which is not under the control of the person in charge of the aircraft.
 - Current CAA legislation states that the aircraft should not be flown within 50 metres of any person except during take-off or landing or within 30 metres of any person except for the person in charge of the aircraft.
 - To ensure the safety of Trust sites, any drone flying must take place when the site is free of other visitors – timing needs to be chosen carefully.
3. All operators must hold the following:
 - a current and valid CAA 'Permission for Aerial Work' (PFAW);
 - evidence of valid insurance cover;
 - a risk assessment for the proposed flight; and
 - a method statement outlining what equipment will be used and a flight plan outlining where flying is proposed.

For further information contact info@norfarchtrust.org.uk