

Date: 6 April 2017

Title: Report Item 6 – No Fly Zone for Drones

By: Cllr Stewart Fuller

Purpose of Report: To apprise Councillors of the CAA Drone Code

Recommendations: To determine if ED&F PC wish to impose regulations for the flying of Drones over parish council land.

Attached is *The Drone Code* issued by the Civil Aviation Authority to assist drone users in flying safely. Key elements are:-

Don't fly near airports or airfields
Remember to stay below 400ft (120m)
Observe your drone at all times - stay 150ft (50m) away from people and property
Never fly near aircraft
Enjoy Responsibly

Owing to the guidance re staying 150ft away from people and (in particular) property there are limited areas within the parish where drones can be flown. The Greensward Company, via the Residents' Association, may have a view on the flying of drones over the Greensward. In turn, the Parish Council may wish to take a view on flying drones over the Recreation Ground, albeit difficult to enforce.

The CAA say that regulations are evolving and that drones are classified as 'unmanned aircraft'. Whilst many deem them not to be toys, others argue it all depends on the 'pilot' and the use to which the aircraft is being put, and if there is a commercial to their usage. Many drones are marketed as toys.

Other PC's are beginning to consider local regulations/no-fly zones within their parishes.

The PC is asked to **NOTE** the CAA Drone Code and to publish it on its website and place an article in the Parish Magazine. Further, a no-fly zone over PC-owned land should be adopted for drones operated with a commercial objective. The overall matter should be reviewed again within (say) twelve months (or earlier if circumstances dictate).