

BLAKENEY DINGHY PARK – Regulations

Blakeney Dinghy Park Committee ('BDPC'), a committee of Blakeney Parish Council

Introduction: -

Blakeney Parish Council provides and maintains the dinghy park to enable residents and visitors to Blakeney to enjoy getting on the water in Blakeney Harbour. It is intended to provide boat parking, during the boating season, for boats which are actively used. To ensure that the maximum number of people can benefit from this facility, and to ensure that it is not used as storage for unused boats, we ask boat owners to adhere to the following regulations. Most importantly, we **require** owners to register their boats so that we can contact the owners when necessary, e.g. in cases where boats have broken free or been damaged after strong winds.

The Dinghy Park is administered by the Blakeney Dinghy Park Committee ('BDPC'), a committee of Blakeney Parish Council.

All users are asked to consider making an annual minimum donation of £10 per boat payable to the Blakeney Parish Council. All donations are ring-fenced to pay for costs associated with the maintenance of the Dinghy Park. Please consider setting up a Standing Order.

The Dinghy Park, which is on National Trust land leased to Blakeney Parish Council, extends between Bridge Creek to the north and the concrete bollards to the south, and between the bank to the east and the mean high-water mark to the west.

The Dinghy Park is for the use of Sailing Dinghies, Catamarans, Rowing Boats, Canoes, Kayaks, Windsurfers, Paddle Boards and Motor Boats. Hereafter all referred to as 'boat(s)'.

All 'boats', and their means of launching, left on the Dinghy Park are at the owner's risk and all users of the Dinghy Park do so entirely at their own risk.

ALL THOSE ENTERING THE CARNER CAR PARK ARE REMINDED THAT THIS IS A PAY & DISPLAY AREA, AND MUST FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BY THE MACHINE AS THEY ENTER THE CARNER. THE DINGHY PARK IS A NO PARKING AREA FOR VEHICLES EXCEPT WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CAR PARK ATTENDANTS.

Good Practice: -

For safety reasons 'boats' which are normally stored with the mast up should be rigged as soon as possible after arriving on the dinghy park.

When 'boats' arrive in the dinghy park, they should, wherever possible, be parked tightly to adjacent 'boats'. Spaces between 'boats' should be no more than 0.5m.

Regulations: -

1. Owners **MUST** hold valid Public Liability Insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2m arising from any one incident. Proof of insurance **SHALL** be shown, if requested, to the BDPC.
2. **Owners are REQUIRED to register their 'boat' with the BDPC** to facilitate contacting the owner when necessary. Registration forms are available from the Parish Office.
- 2.1 **The registration tag is to be fixed amidships to the securing rope and be clearly visible at all times and NOT on the launching trolley.**
3. The Dinghy Park is open between **1st March and the 30th November**.

3.1 'Boats' or any other items **MUST NOT** be put on the Dinghy Park before **1st March**.

3.2 Spaces for the CRAB skiffs, the Sailing Club Safety boats and (up to six) catamarans will be reserved between March 1st and April 1st. Any other 'boat' parking in these reserved spaces will be removed to elsewhere in the Dinghy Park and any locks or other devices used to secure them may be cut off.

3.3 No other spaces can be reserved by whatever means and there are no rights to any particular space.

3.4 'Boats' and all other items MUST BE REMOVED BEFORE THE 1ST DECEMBER.

4. No road trailers are to be left in the Dinghy Park unless under a 'boat' and it is the **ONLY** way of launching the 'boat'. All trailers/trolleys **MUST** have their wheels left on.

5. All 'boats', excepting Canoes, Kayaks, Windsurfers and Paddleboards, **MUST** have a means of launching, i.e. a trolley or trailer.

6. 'Boats' are to be stored only on the grassed area. 'Boats' and masts are to kept clear of paths and **MUST** be individually securely tied down with a substantial rope or strap across the beam and attached to the mooring chains provided or owner's metal stakes.

6.1 Where possible the 'tie down' rope or strap is to be attached to the boat amidships not just over it and not just by the bow rope. This applies to all 'boats'.

6.2 Stakes must be at least 0.5m long and **MUST** be driven below ground level and **MUST** be removed at the end of the season.

6.3 Tyres for supporting 'boats' **MUST NOT** be brought onto the Dinghy Park as this is against National Trust and Environmental Policies.

6.4 Kayaks, Canoes, Windsurfers and Paddleboards (i.e. those 'boats' not needing a launch trolley) **MUST** be located to the North of the Dinghy Park in the designated area, **OR** **MUST** be located behind your other 'boats' (subject to available space) or on top of your larger 'boats' but not so as to interfere with other owners' boats'. Other 'boats' **MUST NOT** park in the designated area. Only if absolutely necessary (and agreed by the BDPC), a launching trolley is acceptable, providing the trolley isn't longer or wider than the kayaks/canoes it serves (ie. one trolley might span two kayaks/canoes). A launching trolley is not acceptable for a windsurfer/paddleboard unless it complies with the same requirements.

6.5 Kayaks, Canoes, Windsurfers and Paddleboards located beside other boats in the main area of the Dinghy park **WILL** be relocated so as to release space for larger boats. Owners must be aware if a locking device has been used to secure a Kayak, Canoe, Windsurfer or Paddleboard it may be cut in order to facilitate the relocation. Only after consultation with, and agreement from the BDPC and for genuine reasons, may a kayak/canoe park in the main area of the Dinghy Park, whether with or without a launching trolley. Owners are required to follow this regulation to ensure maximum space on the Dinghy Park for everyone who wishes to place a boat there.

7. Owners may remove their **registered 'boat'** for short periods during the season and retain their space by prior agreement with the BDPC. The space must have a visible, securely attached, reservation notice issued by the BDPC. Applications **MUST** be received at least 21 days before the requested removal. Any other owner's 'boat' placed in that reserved space will be in breach of the regulations.

8. Owners who use their **registered 'boat' regularly** in the closed period may apply for a permit from the BDPC for it to remain in the Dinghy Park. Applications **MUST** be received before **1st. November** each year. (*Contact the Parish Clerk for an application form; an admin fee applies.*) The granted permit must be clearly displayed on the 'boat'. These 'boats' will be placed in a designated area and must be very well secured for the winter.

9. The BDPC reserves the right to move or reposition and secure 'boats' at their sole discretion in the event of an emergency or to optimise use of the Dinghy Park, in this latter case the owner will be contacted before it is moved, if possible. In moving a 'boat' the BDPC will secure the 'boat', moving the stakes if used. The owner must check the security and take responsibility.

10. 'Boats' which in the opinion of the BDPC are not in a safe or useable condition are prohibited from using the dinghy park and may be removed.

11. Catamaran owners **MUST** place their storage boxes between the hulls or between the rows of 'boats' but definitely not beside the hulls in order to maximise the space available for other 'boats'.

Infringement of the Regulations, Charges: -

Any item used to reserve a space will be removed without notice, except under Regulation 7 above.

Owners will be contacted (if possible) drawing attention to the infringement, be given a date by which the infringement must be rectified or a 30-day notice attached to the 'boat' and/or item.

If the infringement is not corrected by the end of the notice period, the 'boat' and/or other item may be taken to an open store and a Charge will made for their release.

Any 'boat' or item taken to an open store and not claimed within 60 days will be sold/disposed of.

'Boat', Trailer or Trolley taken to an open store - Release Charge - £100 for boats and £50 for canoes, kayaks, windsurfers, paddle boards, trailers and trolleys. Tyre removal at Cost. IN ADDITION, A FURTHER STORAGE CHARGE MAY BE APPLIED EQUIVALENT TO THAT APPLIED BY LOCAL BOAT YARDS.

Please note: - Charges are made to go towards the cost of removals and any licensed contractor's disposal charges for tyres and 'boats'.

The decision of the BDPC in respect of any of these regulations is final.

By Order of Blakeney Parish Council,

The Parish Office, Langham Road, Blakeney, Holt, Norfolk, NR25 7PG. T: 01263 741106, E: clerk@blakeneyparishcouncil.gov.uk

April 2025