

PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Busking on Pirbright Green, Pirbright

What is busking?

'Busking' is performing music, dance, street theatre or art in a public space for the purpose of receiving contributions from members of the public.

In the UK, no licence is required to busk in the borough of Guildford unless you are raising money for a charity, in which case you must hold a valid charity collection permit. However, permission from the Parish Council is required to busk on Pirbright Green as it is owned and managed by Pirbright Parish Council. The Parish Council will support buskers if they live within the parish and follow these guidelines.

Where to busk?

There are several noise-sensitive residential locations within Pirbright therefore, Buskers should only perform on the main Green and within the red area indicated on the map at the end of this document.

Before you perform

Whenever you set out to perform, you join an existing community including street traders, shops, businesses, residents and members of the public. Before setting up, anticipate the impact that your act will have on other users of the space.

Where possible, introduce yourself to nearby businesses, traders and other users of the space near to where you intend to perform. By letting them know about your performance in advance you will make complaints less likely. Always be courteous to members of the public, members of the local business community and public officials if someone needs to speak to you.

Selecting your pitch

The map at the end of this document details the area where the Council would permit busking.

How loud should performances be?

Pirbright Parish Council would not want to encourage amplification that would give rise to disturbance to nearby houses. You must not busk before 9am, or after 6pm and not be loud enough to be heard indoors in any of the properties around the Green.

For Buskers

If you are approached by a resident or representative of a business who is disturbed by your performance, consider whether your performance conforms to these guidelines. Try to reach a compromise. Could you adjust your location and/or volume?



The Legal Background

There is a range of legislation covering noise generated in the street. For example, under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, where a statutory nuisance is being caused noise abatement notices can be served. Breaching a noise abatement notice can lead to fines and the seizure of musical instruments and other equipment.

Under the Control of Pollution Act 1974 section 62 no amplification is allowed in any public street after 9pm and before 8am.

Obstruction of the Public Highway is an offence under the 1980 Highways Act.

