

## ***Response to the public question regarding cycling in Nonsuch Park***

### ***What is the policy re electric and non-electric bicycles/scooters and right of way in Cheam and Nonsuch parks?***

An electric scooter is a motorised two-wheel vehicle or Personal Light Electric Vehicle (PLEV). They differ from electric bikes not just because they don't have pedals but because they are classed as motor vehicles under the road traffic laws. Therefore, they are covered by the byelaws and are not allowed in the park.

1. A person shall not in any part of the Pleasure ground, except in the exercise of any lawful right or privilege, drive or wheel any barrow, truck, machine, or vehicle other than
  - (a) a wheeled bicycle, tricycle, or other similar machine;
  - (b) a wheeled chair, perambulator or chaise drawn or propelled by hand and used solely for the conveyance of a child or children or an invalid.

Provided that where a notice is conspicuously exhibited by the Committee at the entrances to the pleasure ground that vehicles or machines of a specified class may be driven or ridden upon any road or pathway specified in the notice, this Byelaw shall not be, - deemed to prohibit the driving or riding of any such vehicle or machine upon any such road or pathway.

If an electric bike meets electrically assisted pedal cycle (EAPC) requirements, then legally it's classed as a normal pedal bike. That means that e-bikes are legal to ride on both private and public property and can be ridden anywhere that a standard bicycle is allowed.

### ***Upon which paths do bicycles/scooters have a right of way?***

There are a number of signs around the park which identify the paths as shared use and give priority to pedestrians. There is currently a 10mph speed limit in the park for vehicles.

### ***How is this signposted?***

There are signs around the park (see pic) but it is accepted that that could be improved.

### ***How is compliance monitored and reported?***

There is a resident Park Patroller and mobile grounds maintenance and cleansing staff who operate within the park, if anyone is found cycling dangerously or using electric scooters, staff would challenge and could potentially prosecute under the byelaws or in the case of dangerous driving details taken and it is escalated to the Police. It is inherently difficult for staff and the Police to catch moped riders, fortunately, we have not had too much of problem with mopeds in the park lately, but historically we have had spates of anti-social joyriding and worked with the Police to curtail this.



***What action(s) have/will be taken to ensure the health & safety of, and a peaceful environment for pedestrians?***

In the past the Park ran an annual Awareness Day which focused on encouraging positive behaviour in the park. The event had various zones, fitness, dogs, cycling, nature and heritage and the event was used to promote safe cycling, dog control and the many fitness groups that use the park.

The CTC cycling club gave out safe and courteous cycling leaflets and the group ran bike maintenance workshops. This proved extremely popular, and we noticed a marked improvement by promoting positive messages.

We have been exploring ways to revive a park event within our limited resources as it is an effective way to promote harmonious and safe use of the park.

In the meantime, the Streetcare Manager will look at improving signs in the park and has asked the on-site staff to monitor cycling activity.