



## **Metal Detector Use Policy**

Adopted on: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022

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### **1. Introduction**

Requests to permit the use of metal detectors on land owned or managed by Ringwood Town Council (RTC) are occasionally made to Councillors and Council Officers. This Policy seeks to give clear guidance regarding the circumstances where such requests may be granted.

### **2. RTC Owned or Managed Spaces**

- 2.1 In accord with the Open Spaces Act (1906) Section 10, RTC shall “hold and administer the open space or burial ground in trust to allow, and with a view to, the enjoyment thereof by the public as an open space within the meaning of this Act and under proper control and regulation and for no other purpose: and maintain and keep the open space or burial ground in a good and decent state.” In addition, there may be covenants or other legal obstacles that restrict changes of a particular open space.
- 2.2 RTC is also mindful of the importance of preserving the ecological value of and the natural habitats and any archaeology on the land which it owns or maintains.
- 2.3 RTC will therefore only grant permission for the use of metal detectors on land which it owns or maintains where such use is in furtherance of a *bona fide* research project.
- 2.4 Requests for permission to use metal detectors for research projects will be considered on their individual merits and will be granted subject to such limitations, conditions and restrictions as the Town Clerk shall deem appropriate.