



Wrekin Range

BYELAWS

Made by the Secretary of State for Defence, under the provisions of Part II of the Military Lands Act 1892, for regulating the use of the above-mentioned range.

DEFENCE

The Wrekin Range Byelaws 1966

Made

21st April, 1966

Coming into operation

9th September, 1966

The Secretary of State for Defence in exercise of his powers under Part II of the Military Lands Act 1892(a), Section 2 of the Defence (Transfer of Functions) Act 1964(b) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf hereby, with the consent of the Salop County Council and the Wellington Rural District Council so far as regards the interference with the highways hereinafter mentioned, makes the following Byelaws:—

AREA OF LAND AFFECTED

1. The area to which these Byelaws apply (hereinafter referred to as "the Danger Area") consists of the Wrekin Range (together with all highways thereon) in the Parish of Wellington Rural in the County of Salop the limits of which are set out in the Schedule hereto and are, for convenience of reference, marked with a thick black line on the plan hereto annexed and identified as "Plan of the Wrekin Range".

USE OF DANGER AREA

2. The Danger Area may be used for the firing of rifles, machine guns and other small arms and for all activities ancillary to such firing.

PROHIBITION OF ACCESS

3. (1) When the Danger Area is being used for any of the purposes specified in Byelaw No. 2, no person shall, except as provided in sub-paragraph (3) of this Byelaw:—
- (a) enter into or upon or pass over or through the Danger Area, or
 - (b) be or remain in or upon the Danger Area, or
 - (c) cause or permit or suffer any vehicle, animal, aircraft or thing to enter into or upon or to pass through or to be or remain in or upon the Danger Area, or
 - (d) cause or permit any aircraft to fly over the Danger Area at a height less than 1,700 feet above mean sea level.

(2) Whilst the Danger Area is being used for any of the said purposes, notice of the fact shall be given by the display of the following signals, that is to say, by the display of a red flag at the following places:—

- (a) where the south-western boundary of the Danger Area crosses Wrekin Course 400 yards west-south-west of the westernmost building at Wrekin Farm;
- (b) where the north-eastern boundary of the Danger Area crosses Wrekin Course 180 yards south-west of the westernmost building at Wrekin Farm;
- (c) on the north-east boundary of the Danger Area 285 yards south-east of the westernmost building at Wrekin Farm where the woodland path crosses the range from north-east to south-west, behind the Butts;
- (d) at a place on the Wrekin at the easternmost extremity of the Danger Area 760 yards south-east of the westernmost building at Wrekin Farm and 170 yards west-south-west of Wrekin Cottage;
- (e) on the Wrekin at the southernmost extremity of the Danger Area, near Hell Gate and 760 yards south-west of Wrekin Cottage;
- (f) on the south-west boundary of the Danger Area where the woodland path crosses the range from north-east to south-west, behind the Butts 540 yards south by west of the westernmost building at Wrekin Farm.

(3) (a) When the Danger Area is being used for the said purposes then notwithstanding the provisions of sub-paragraph (1) of this Byelaw the public will be allowed unrestricted passage along the public highway known as the Wrekin Course which crosses the Danger Area between the 300 and 400 yards firing points, except when firing is taking place from either the 400, 500 or 600 yards firing point. The said highway and firing points are shown on the plan above referred to and marked respectively "Wrekin Course" and "400", "500" and "600 yards firing point".

(b) When firing is taking place from either the 100, 200 or 300 yards firing point notice of the fact shall be given by the display of the warning signals specified in sub-paragraphs (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the preceding paragraph. When firing is taking place from either the 400, 500 or 600 yards firing point notice of the fact shall be given by the display of all the warning signals specified in the preceding paragraph and in addition sentries will be posted by the warning signals on the Wrekin Course. At these latter times use of the highway by the public is forbidden except at such intervals as the Officer in charge of the Wrekin Range may permit.

PROJECTILES

4. No person shall dig or search for any projectile or any lead or other metal in or on the Danger Area, or interfere with or take or retain or be in possession of any projectile or any lead or other metal found within the Danger Area, or remove any projectile from the Danger Area.

GOVERNMENT STORES

5. No person shall interfere with or remove from the Danger Area any stores or articles belonging to or under the care or control of the Ministry of Defence or otherwise the property of the Crown.

OFFENCES

6. Subject to the provisions of Byelaw No. 8, any person doing anything prohibited by or otherwise contravening any provision of any of the preceding Byelaws Nos. 3, 4 and 5 thereby commits an offence against the Byelaw so contravened.

ENFORCEMENT

7. The following persons are hereby authorised to remove from the Danger Area and to take into custody without warrant any person found therein when it is being used for any of the purposes specified in Byelaw No. 2 or found committing any other offence against any of the said Byelaws, and to remove from the Danger Area any vehicle, animal, aircraft or thing whatsoever found in the Danger Area in contravention of any of the said Byelaws:—

- (a) the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command;
- (b) the Officer in charge of the Wrekin Range;
- (c) any officer, any warrant officer, non-commissioned officer or rating of corresponding rank, or any service policeman, in uniform and being for the time being under the Command of the said General Officer Commanding-in-Chief or the Officer in charge of the Wrekin Range;
- (d) any person authorised in writing by or on behalf of the said General Officer Commanding-in-Chief or the Officer in charge of the Wrekin Range; and
- (e) any member of a police force or any special constable under the control of the Ministry of Defence.

EXEMPTIONS

- 8. (1) Nothing done by a person using the Danger Area in pursuance of Byelaw No. 2 or by a person acting under and in accordance with the terms of any agreement made by or with the consent, express or implied, of the Secretary of State or the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command or the Officer in charge of the Wrekin Range shall constitute an offence against any of these Byelaws.

- (2) If it is proved that an act or omission of any person which would otherwise have been an offence against any of the provisions of paragraph (1) of Byelaw No. 3 was due to any cause not avoidable by the exercise of reasonable care by that person the act or omission shall be deemed not to be an offence against that Byelaw.

INTERPRETATION

9. (1) The Interpretation Act 1889(a) shall apply to the interpretation of these Byelaws as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.
- (2) In these Byelaws the expression—
 “projectile” includes any shot or shell or other missile and any portion thereof;
 “aircraft” includes any craft or contrivance which though not an aircraft is for the time being airborne.

DATE OF OPERATION OF BYELAWS

10. These Byelaws shall come into operation on the 9th day of September 1966, and may be cited as the Wrekin Range Byelaws 1966.

THE SCHEDULE

The limits of the Danger Area are as follows:—

On the North-West

Commencing at a point at the southern extremity of the 600 yards firing point of the Wrekin Range 470 yards west by south of the westernmost building at Wrekin Farm thence NORTH-EAST along the said 600 yards firing point for a distance of 40 yards; thence

On the North-East

From the last mentioned point in an EAST-SOUTH-EASTERLY direction for a distance of 640 yards to meet the north-western boundary of the woodland on the lower slope of the hill which rises (to the south-east) to the crest of the Wrekin at a point 280 yards south-east of the westernmost building at Wrekin Farm, thence EAST-SOUTH-EAST for a distance of 505 yards to a point 160 yards south-west of Wrekin Cottage near the northern end of the crest of the Wrekin; thence

On the South-East

From the last mentioned point in a SOUTH-SOUTH-WESTERLY direction along the crest of the Wrekin for a distance of 608 yards to a point near Hell Gate, 1050 yards east by south of the easternmost building of the premises known as Wrekin Building; thence

On the South-West

From the last mentioned point in a NORTH-WESTERLY direction for a distance of 520 yards to a point 20 yards south-east of the footpath (which runs generally in a south-westerly direction from a point on Wrekin Course, 300 yards east by north of the easternmost building at Wrekin Farm, to White Cottage Plantation) and 760 yards east-north-east of the easternmost building of the premises known as Wrekin Buildings, thence NORTH-NORTH-WEST, for a distance of 640 yards, to the point of commencement.

Dated this 21st day of April 1966.

(Sgd.) J. H. THOMAS

By Order of the Secretary of State for
Defence.

The consent of the Salop County Council to the making of these Byelaws, so far as regards the restriction of the use of such or such parts of the highways mentioned therein as are situate within its area, was given by a resolution dated the tenth day of March, 1965.

(Sgd.) G. C. GODBER

Clerk of the Salop County Council.

The consent of the Wellington Rural District Council to the making of these Byelaws, so far as regards the restriction of the use of such or such parts of the highways mentioned therein as are situate within its area, was given by a resolution dated the Twenty-fifth day of March 1965.

(Sgd.) J. INCH

Clerk of the Wellington Rural
District Council.

NOTICES

PENALTY FOR OFFENCES

1. By Section 17(2) of the Military Lands Act 1892, it is provided:—

If any person commits an offence against any Byelaw under this Act, he shall be liable on conviction before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, to a fine not exceeding FIVE POUNDS, and may be removed by any Constable or Officer authorised in manner provided by the Byelaw from the area, whether land or water, to which the Byelaw applies, and taken into custody without Warrant, and brought before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction to be dealt with according to law, and any vehicle, animal, vessel, or thing found in the area in contravention of any Byelaw, may be removed by any Constable or such Officer as aforesaid, and on due proof of such contravention, be declared by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction to be forfeited to Her Majesty.

INSPECTION OF BYELAWS AND PLAN

2. A copy of these Byelaws and a plan showing the Danger Area may be inspected at the Police Station, Wellington, Salop., and at the Parish Hall, Little Wenlock. They may also be inspected at the Office of the Defence Land Agent (Army), Ministry of Defence, 5 Swan Hill Court, Shrewsbury where copies of the Byelaws may be obtained at the price of one shilling for each copy.

RECOVERY OF PROJECTILES

3. Any person who finds a projectile within the Danger Area must not disturb it but should report the finding of it to the Officer in charge of the Wrekin Range or to the police at the first opportunity.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF FIRING

4. Public Notification that firing will take place will be given by sending notices, not less than seven days before the day of firing giving particulars of the intended date, time and duration of the firing to the Superintendent of Police, Wellington, Salop., and to the owners and tenants of land in and adjoining the Danger Area.

PLAN OF THE WREKIN RANGE

