

MOTION

MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CHRIS BODEN REGARDING SKY/CHINESE LANTERNS

Sky lanterns, also known as Chinese lanterns, when not used responsibly are dangerous fire hazards which can have devastating consequences for people, buildings and animals. Similarly helium balloons used for balloon releases can also have a negative impact on animal welfare as the balloons and their strings can entangle animals, and create a choking hazard when animals consider the balloon as food. Additionally, once these items come back down to land, they end up as litter.

This Council proposes that:-

1. The release of sky/Chinese lanterns and helium balloons will continue to be prohibited from any land owned and occupied by Fenland District Council.
2. The release of sky/Chinese lanterns and helium balloons will continue to be prohibited at events licensed, sponsored or supported by Fenland District Council.
3. The Council will discourage organisations/clubs/schools/its tenants within the Fenland District Council area from releasing sky/Chinese lanterns and helium balloons and to look for environmentally safe alternatives.
4. Calls on the UK Government to implement a nationwide ban on the release of sky lanterns and helium balloons across England.