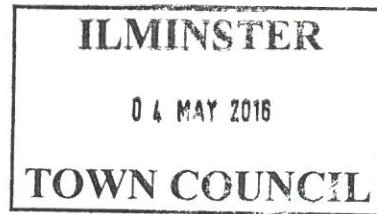




Ilminster Town Clerk
Council Offices
North Street
Ilminster
Somerset
TA19 0DG



1ST Ilminster Scout Group

Alice Shearman
55 Ditton Street
Ilminster
TA19 0BW
Telephone: 07708087540

27th April 2016

Dear Town Clerk

Scouts – Fire Lighting Permission for Herne Hill

I am writing to you to ask whether it will be possible for the Scout group in Ilminster to be granted permission to light small fires within Herne Hill. On all occasions responsible adults will be present. We will make it clear that under no circumstances are the Scouts to light fires independently when not at Scouts.

We would be very grateful if such permission could be granted, as it enables us to offer a wider set of experiences to our young people, and teach skills that Scouting expects them to experience. These skills include safe fire lighting, safe fire maintenance, extinguishing fires safely and leaving the ground safe and ready for other users of the site once we are finished.

At Ilminster Scout group we try to encourage our Scouts to participate in a wide range of camping not only with our local Blackdown District but also with other Scout groups. During these camps they are required to create a patrol site on which they do their own cooking on open fires. We are in need of a location to safely teach our Scouts the essential skill of fire lighting and would like the means to do this at Herne Hill.

One technique that we would use if we were granted permission for fire lighting is to create Indian fire pits. These are an effective way of concealing a fire as it is lit in a dug out pit in the earth, which contains the fire and also means that when the fire is not needed the earth that has been removed can be replaced into the pit and compacted down so that there is no trace of the fire left.

I would be very grateful if you could let me know if permission can be granted and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours Sincerely

Alice Shearman

Scout Leader
On Behalf of 1st Ilminster Scout Group