



# **CONDITIONS FOR KEEPING BEES ON ALL ALLOTMENT SITES**

## **1. CONSENT**

Bees shall not be kept on any allotment until the allotment tenant has submitted a request in writing to keep bees on his or her plot to the Parish Council and that request has been agreed in writing by the Parish Council.

Beekeepers making such an application will be expected to be either experienced, to be working towards a British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) qualification and / or to have close guidance from an experienced beekeeper and hold the relevant insurance documents.

## **2. CONSULTATION**

Prior to making an application the plot holder should inform, both verbally and by a prominently displayed notice on the plot, notifying neighbouring allotment gardeners of the request to keep bees on the allotment and prominently display such a notice for a minimum period of 28 days in the growing season and 56 days outside the growing season, indicating that a request to keep bees has been submitted to the Parish Council.

Where an objection on allergy or medical grounds is made to the Council and substantiated, the Council may refuse permission to place bees on the site.

## **3. DUTY OF CARE**

The beekeeper owes a duty of care to –

- The public in the vicinity of the hives
- Other allotment gardeners working nearby
- Intruders even though it is clear that their intention was to disturb the colony.

They should erect a notice in advance informing others of the opening of the hives, usually once a week or fortnight in the peak season.

## **4. SITING AND NUMBER OF HIVES**

Hives should be sited as far as possible from any public road or path or jointly used road or path within the allotment site, and the location must be agreed in advance with the Council. The chosen location must have fences, fine mesh or maintained hedges of up to two metres tall to encourage the bees to fly high over neighbouring plots or gardens.

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No more than one hive will be permitted per plot with a maximum number per site not exceeding two hives per acre.

Prior consent from the Council must be obtained for any change in the location and number of hives kept on site.



## **5. EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS**

The beekeeper must provide the Council with details (names, address and telephone number) of persons able to deal with emergencies (such as swarming) during any absence or unavailability of the beekeeper. These details must also always be prominently displayed on or near to the beekeeper's allotment.

## **6. COMPLAINTS**

The Council will investigate any complaints and in particular those with health and nuisance elements and in consequence may subsequently withdraw permission via the issue of 14 days' notice for the removal of all hives.

## **7. INSURANCE**

The beekeeper is required to hold a current Public Liability insurance policy, which provides specifically for Beekeeping risk in the sum of five million pounds (5,000,000) cover.

The Beekeeper must annually provide the Parish Council with copies of the renewed insurance certificate.

## **8. PESTS AND DISEASES**

The beekeeper is encouraged to register all hives with the National Bee Unit 'Beebase', (part of Defra).

If the beekeeper suspects that notifiable pests are present in the hive or that bees are suffering from a notifiable disease they must inform the National Bee Unit who will arrange for an inspector to assess the hives/bees and provide a copy of the results of inspection to the Parish Council.

## **9. SALE OF HONEY**

The beekeeper will not sell honey on their plot or display notices that honey is available for sale on the Allotment Site or Garden.

## **10. WITHDRAWAL OF CONSENT**

The Council may withdraw the permission giving 14 days' notice to remove the hives if.

- The permit holder contravenes any of the above conditions.
- The permit holder contravenes any conditions within the allotment tenancy Agreement or any separate Parish Council Allotment rules.
- Substantiated information is received that requires a review of the arrangements
- Any costs resulting from the withdrawal of consent shall be borne by the allotment holder.



## AGREEMENT

I hereby accept and agree to abide by the additional Conditions of Tenancy laid down by West Dereham Parish Council for the keeping of honeybees as set out in the 'Conditions for Keeping Bees on all Allotment Sites'

Maximum Number of Beehives allowed per plot is one and no more than two on the site.

**Signed:** -----

**Plot Number:** -----@ West Dereham Parish Council Allotments

**Dated:** -----

The Council hereby accepts the above signatory, as a beekeeper, upon adherence to the conditions set out above.

**Insurance Details Provided :**-----

**Dated:** -----

**Signed:**-----

Further information available from.

<b>The British Beekeepers Association</b> <b>The National Agricultural Centre</b> <b>Stoneleigh</b> <b>Warwickshire</b> <b>CV8 2LG</b> <b><a href="http://www.britishbee.org.uk">www.britishbee.org.uk</a></b>	<b>National Bee Unit</b> <b>Foss House</b> <b>Kings Pool</b> <b>1-2 Peasholme Green</b> <b>York</b> <b>Y01 7PX</b> <b><a href="http://www.nationalbeeunit.com">www.nationalbeeunit.com</a></b>
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Please return this agreement to the Allotment Co-Ordinator or the Parish Clerk marked for the attention of WDPC Allotments.