



POLICY FOR BEEKEEPING ON ALLOTMENT PLOTS

1 CONSENT

Bees shall not be kept on any allotment unless the tenant has submitted a request and this has been agreed by the Town Clerk – tenants do not have a statutory right to keep bees on allotments.

A maximum of two hives may be permitted per full allotment plot and one per half plot.

2 CONSULTATION

A Notice must be prominently displayed on the plot notifying other plotholders of a request to keep bees. Such notice should be displayed for a minimum period of 28 days in the growing season and 56 days outside of the growing season, indicating that consideration to the request is being given by the Town Clerk.

Once consent has been granted permanent notices must be displayed on the plot to advise other plot holders of beekeeping activity.

3 WITHDRAWAL OF CONSENT

The Town Council reserves the right to issue 14 days' notice for the removal of hives if:

- The Beekeeper contravenes any of the stated conditions
- Substantiated information is received that requires a review of the arrangements

4 DUTY OF CARE

The Beekeeper has a Duty of Care to:

- The public in the vicinity of the hive(s)
- Other allotment gardeners working nearby
- Intruders – even though it may be clear that their intention was to disturb the colony

5 COMPETANCY AND INSURANCE

It will be a requirement that a Beekeeper is a member of the British Bee Keeper Association (BBKA) and has the Association's £5 million insurance cover.

The BBKA provides a third-party insurance scheme to all Beekeepers who are paid-up members of a local beekeeping association and which in turn are affiliated to BBKA.

Beekeepers must ensure that they provide competent care and management and have the knowledge and skills to ensure the well-being of the bees. In addition Beekeepers are expected to keep them under proper control to avoid disturbance to others. The BBKA operates a well-

established national system of assessments and examinations for beekeeping skills at a number of levels and it is expected that a Beekeeper should have a as a minimum the BBKA's Basic examination.

6 STAND-BY

The Beekeeper must provide the Parish Council with contact details (name, address, and telephone numbers) of adequate stand-by arrangements to deal with emergencies such as swarming during any absence or unavailability of the Beekeeper. These details must also be prominently displayed by the Beekeeper on or near the allotment entrance at all times.

7 LOCATION OF HIVES

Hives should be located towards the centre of a plot so that they are not close to the boundary with a neighbouring tenant. The exception to this could be if the plot was against a site boundary, depending on the type of boundary. For example it would be inappropriate to place a hive next to a path.

8 COMPLAINTS

The Parish Council will investigate any complaints and in particular those with health and nuisance elements and in consequence may subsequently withdraw the permission by issuing a 14 days' Notice for the removal of hives.

To: Parish Clerk – East Boldre Parish Council

I hereby accept and agree to abide by the additional Conditions of Tenancy laid down by East Boldre Parish Council in their Policy for Beekeeping on Allotment Plots.

Signed _____

Allotment Plot Number _____

Date _____