



WILLIAM FOWLER ALLOTMENT TRUST
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WILLIAM FOWLER ALLOTMENT BEEKEEPING AGREEMENT

Allotments have had a long tradition of beekeeping and the recent decline in honey bee numbers is of national concern. William Fowler Allotment Trust is keen to support beekeeping and believe that honey bees play a critical role in biodiversity of allotment sites and the wider environment.

1. Review of Agreement

The Trustees reserve the right to review this agreement as required. Before making any changes the Trustees will give notice of such changes.

2. Tenancy

Any person keeping bees on allotment land must be an allotment tenant and is bound by the William Fowler Allotment Agreement in addition to this agreement.

If an allotment tenant no longer keeps tenancy of an allotment plot, then he or she will no longer be permitted to keep bees anywhere on the allotment site and will be required to remove hives before the tenancy of the plot terminates.

3. The Plot

An allotment tenant must obtain permission from the Allotments Manager as Agent of the Trustees to keep bees on an allotment. The Allotments Manager will consider the location of the plot in relation to neighbours, the potential for locating the hive(s) on the plot in relation to other allotment users, and the number of other beekeepers already present on the site. Should a plot be deemed unsuitable, where possible an alternative location will be offered for beekeeping.

4. The Beekeeper

The beekeeper must be a member of a beekeepers' association affiliated to the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA), and must be covered by suitable public liability insurance. Proof of adequate insurance cover will be required with the signed agreement. The beekeeper must annually provide the Allotments Manager with copies of the renewed insurance certificate or proof of their current BBKA membership includes public liability insurance. Membership and insurance cover must be maintained whilst keeping bees on the allotment.

The beekeeper must display a sign on their designated apiary area, stating honey bees are located there.

The beekeeper must provide the Allotments Manager with details (name, address, telephone number and mobile number) of adequate stand-by arrangements to deal with emergencies such as swarming during absence or unavailability of the beekeeper. The beekeeper will also ensure that a reliable

contact number for him or herself or a person competent at dealing with bees is displayed on the plot boundary.

5. The Hives

Hives must be located towards the centre of the plot with the entrance facing away from nearby paths and ideally with the entrance facing South East and shelter from North Easterly wind. The entrance and sides must be suitably screened (fine mesh netting, dust screening, willow, hazel or maintained hedges) to a minimum height of 2 metres to encourage the bees to fly high over neighbouring plots.

Hives shall be inspected weekly from April to July by the beekeeper, in accordance with BBKA guidelines.

The beekeeper is required to register all hives with the National Bee Unit's 'Beebase' (part of DEFRA). Guidance is available from their website: <http://www.nationalbeeunit.com/>.

6. The Bees

The beekeeper must ensure that gentle strains of bees are kept, and if the bees become aggressive or exhibit excessive 'following' tendency, he or she will arrange to re-queen the colony (or remove the colony until its undesirable traits have been resolved).

The beekeeper must carry out such management and manipulations of the colonies as necessary to minimise the issue of swarms.

Management and manipulations must be timed, as far as possible, to minimise disturbance to other plot holders, and the beekeeper is encouraged to liaise with neighbouring plot holders in order to facilitate this.

Adequate water provision for the bees must be made on the plot to reduce instances of bees drinking on neighbouring plots.

7. Complaints

The Trustees will investigate any complaints and in particular those with health and nuisance elements and in consequence may subsequently withdraw the permission via issue of 30 days' notice for the removal of hives. Any costs resulting from withdrawal of consent shall be borne by the tenant.

All tenants are required to sign and return the agreement.

I hereby accept and agree to abide by these conditions for the keeping of bees and I agree to adhere to all the good practice guidelines from BBKA.

Allotment Number:.....

Name of Tenant Beekeeper: (please print).....

Address:.....

Home Telephone:.....

Mobile:.....

Signature:.....

Date:.....

Name of Insurer:.....

Policy Number:.....

Policy Expiry Date:.....

I provide emergency contact details of another beekeeper for stand-by arrangements:

Name: (please print).....

Address:.....

Home Telephone:.....

Mobile:.....

In accordance with National Allotments Legislation, the sale of produce from allotments for profit is prohibited. Permission to keep bees and the allotment holder's tenancy agreement will be revoked if a beekeeper is found to be selling honey, beeswax, etc. from allotment hives.

The information on this form is held solely for the purpose of the William Fowler Allotments and will not be passed to any third party. The information will be stored at the Guildhall for the time while you are an allotment holder keeping bees. Once you are no longer an allotment holder keeping bees, the information will be destroyed.