

Northfields Allotments Beekeeping Agreement

1. REVIEW OF AGREEMENT

The Committee reserves the right to review this agreement as required. Before making any changes the Committee will give you notice of such changes.

2. TENANCY

Any person keeping bees on allotment land must be an allotment tenant and is bound by the allotment Tenancy Agreement in addition to this agreement. (Please note clause 2b of your allotment Tenancy Agreement applies to produce from bees.)

3. THE PLOT

An allotment tenant must obtain written permission from the Committee to keep bees on the allotment. The Committee will consider the location of the plot in relation to neighbours, the public, 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. An allotment may not be rented for the storage of beekeeping equipment or unattended hives. The Committee reserves the right to withdraw permission.

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 third-party insurance. Membership and insurance cover must be maintained whilst keeping bees on the allotment.

The beekeeper must have passed the BBKA Basic Assessment and must present his or her certificate before receiving permission to keep bees on the allotment

The beekeeper will ensure that a reliable daytime contact number for him or herself or a person competent at dealing with bees is displayed on the plot boundary. The postcode and road name of the nearest allotment gate must be displayed (to guide emergency services)

5. THE HIVES

No more than 2 hives and 1 nucleus may be located on one plot. To facilitate mentoring, the Committee designated teaching apiary (plot 230B) may have up to 4 hives and 2 nuclei.

Hives must be located in a suitable position on the plot with the entrance facing away from nearby paths (and preferably facing south-east), and the entrance and sides must be suitably screened to a height of 2 metres.

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

Hives must be registered with the Animal & Plant Health Authority (APHA) National Bee Unit (NBU) via the BeeBase website. At any time the Committee may request an inspection by an APHA NBU bee inspector.

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 are 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. Note that mains water is provided on allotments from May to October only. Alternative provision must be made at other times.

Please sign and return one copy to the Committee

Plot Number	Plot Holder Signature	Date
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