

# **Longhorsley Parish Council**

## **Rules for Allotment Garden Tenants**

*These rules are in addition to and do not replace the tenancy agreement. They are to ensure smooth operational of the allotment sites.*

### **1. Applications**

Applications for an allotment must be sent or delivered to the Clerk of the Council, who must register particulars of the application.

### **2. Applicants**

Applications for an allotment must be a resident in the Parish at the time of the application. Where there are two or more eligible applicants for an allotment garden, the following rules are to apply:

- i. Preference may be given to the applicant appearing most likely to keep the allotment garden in a proper state of cultivation.
- ii. Preference may be given to an applicant who does not already hold an allotment or agricultural land, either Council or otherwise, not including any land the applicant is quitting, over one who does.
- iii. If all other factors are equal, preference must be given to the applicant whose name appears first on the list in the council's register.

### **3. Number of Allotments Held**

One person may hold more than one allotment, provided that the total area of the allotment does not exceed 2.02 hectares.

### **4. Signature of Agreements**

The tenancy agreement for an allotment may be signed by the Clerk of the Council on behalf of the Council.

### **5. Sprays**

When using any sprays or fertilisers the tenant of an allotment shall:

- i. Take all reasonable care to ensure that adjoining hedges, trees and crops are not adversely affected and make good or replant as necessary should any damage occur.

- ii. So far as possible, select and use chemicals (whether spraying, seed dressing or for any other purpose whatsoever) that will cause the least harm to members of the public, game birds and other wildlife [other than vermin or pests] and
- iii. Comply at all times with current regulations.

## 6. **Change of Address**

The tenant to inform the Clerk of the Council in writing immediately of any change in the tenant's address.

## 7. **Special Conditions**

The tenant of an allotment must observe and perform any special condition the council considers necessary to preserve it from deterioration of which notice is given to applicants for the allotments in accordance with these rules. Special conditions made under this rule may not prohibit or restrict the keeping of hens or rabbits.

- i. Special Condition –*Rental Payments*– it was agreed at the Parish Council meeting held 13.10.10 that the playground would not be required to pay annual rent for the allotment garden they hold, although water charges would be applicable for any water that is used. It was further agreed at the Parish Council meeting held on 9.1.13 that annual water bills and annual rents should be issued to all relevant plot holders in January each year.
- ii. Special Condition - *Keeping of Hens* – it was agreed at the Parish Council meeting held 10.11.10; that in relation to keeping of hens the following additional conditions would apply 1) that no cockerels would be permitted 2) an appropriate hen house would be erected and 3) appropriate security measures were put in place to prevent possible damage by foxes etc.
- iii. Special Condition – *Restrictions on Height of Structures* – it was agreed at the Parish Council meeting held on 13.11.13; that a structure erected on an allotment plot should not exceed 6ft 6inches (2 metres) in height. This applies to hen houses, sheds, poly tunnels and indeed any structure that has been agreed by the Parish Council.
- iv. Special Condition – *Keeping of Ducks* – it was agreed at the Parish Council meeting held on 9.7.14; that the keeping of ducks should be permitted but the following additional conditions would apply 1) any requests should first be made to the Parish Council in writing. This is to ensure the number of ducks requested is appropriate to the site. 2) appropriate shelter is to be erected 3) appropriate security measures are put in place to prevent possible damage by foxes etc.

8. **Application of the Rules**

These rules do not apply to any land or any allotment the council exempts from the Rules under special circumstances, which must be recorded in their minutes. With these exceptions, the rules apply to any allotment garden, whether the tenancy agreement under which it is held under before or after these rules came into operation, but not so as to affect any right to compensation for an improvement made before they came into operation. The council reserve the right to amend, alter or add to these rules.

9. **Interpretation**

In these rules “the council” includes the councils' allotment officer appointed by the council under sections 101 and 112 of the Local Government Act 1972. The councils' allotment officer is currently Mr. Kevin Woods contact email is [kevinwoods@gmail.com](mailto:kevinwoods@gmail.com).