

**BIRSTALL PARISH COUNCIL
TENANTS AGREEMENT FOR KEEPING HENS/ RABBITS ON ALLOTMENTS**

This Agreement is made between BIRSTALL PARISH COUNCIL (hereinafter called the Council), of the one part and

(Name)

(of)

And, in the case of joint tenancies

(Name)

(of)

And is in respect only of Plot ____ at the _____ site.

The Tenancy is subject to compliance with the Council's standard letting agreement and the following rules relating to the keeping of livestock on allotment plots made by the Parish Council.

No Livestock shall be kept on the allotment gardens, without prior written consent of the Council. If granted the tenant(s) will be responsible for ensuring that the livestock are securely contained in a humane structure and cared for to the entire satisfaction of the Parish Council. The Tenant(s) will also be responsible for all costs associated with the control of vermin caused by the keeping of livestock

Tenants may keep a maximum of 4 rabbits and 4 hens. Livestock must be tended to on a daily basis, ensuring food and clean water is available and that the animals are secure and healthy

The keeping of cockerels is not permitted

Hens or rabbits must not be kept in such a place or in such a manner as to be a nuisance or prejudicial to human or animal health. Tenants must obtain prior permission from the Council and must comply with any husbandry conditions laid down by (and obtainable from) the Parish Council. Failure to do so may lead to eviction of the tenant from the entire allotment

Any area used for keeping hens or rabbits must be securely and adequately fenced to the satisfaction of the Council. No livestock may be housed until an inspection of the coop and enclosure has been made by a representative of the Parish Council and written consent to proceed is received by the tenant

The area used for livestock must be no more than 25% of the entire plot

In the event of any livestock for which consent has been given becoming a nuisance to the Parish Council or any other site tenant the Parish Council may serve on the Tenant a notice withdrawing such consent and the Tenant shall remove the livestock from the site within 30 days of such notice

Hens and/or rabbits should be kept in a coop or shed providing shelter and outdoor space. By way of example your coop should have:

- at least 250 centimeters squared floor area for each bird
- a perch for them to stand on while they sleep
- an exercise space, or 'run'
- a nesting box filled with wood shavings for the hens to lay eggs
- The coop should be thoroughly cleaned every week and fresh bedding put out.
- The chicken coop and run should be secure to prevent the animals from roaming and to keep predators out.
- use wire mesh fencing all the way around and above the coop
- fix wooden boards to the base of the fence
- check the coop regularly to make sure it is secure
- shut the chickens into their coop at night

Further advice can be obtained from DEFRA and other sources

The Parish Council is not responsible for animal welfare or any structures and enclosures on the allotment. All structures must be removed from the allotment at the end of the tenancy

A returnable deposit of £50 is payable on signing of this agreement

I have read and understand the above rules

Signed (Tenant):	Date:
Signed (for the Council)	Date: