

# NEWMARKET ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

## NOTES RE KEEPING OF LIVESTOCK (POULTRY)

Site Managers are responsible for overseeing the welfare of Livestock on their Sites

1. Plots of **10 rods** should have **70% cultivation**. The maximum number of chickens shall be 12.
2. No chickens to be kept on a 10 rod or less plot
3. All allotment holders wishing to have poultry are expected to have **one year's tenancy** prior to applying so that the association can verify that the person can keep an acceptable level of usage.
4. There are no cockerels permitted on the Sites. ( any existing ones as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 should live out their natural life but should then not be replaced)
5. Under the **new allocation of plots** the association considers that the sites are not suitable for the keeping of rabbits, geese or turkeys. Ducks may be held subject to the agreement of the Site Manager.

Section 9 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 makes owners and keepers legally responsible for making sure that the welfare needs of the animals are met. Failure to comply with the act may result in criminal prosecution leading to a fine of up to £5,000 or imprisonment. To this end the following should apply:-

- 1) **There should be** a continuous, ready access to an adequate supply of cool, clean, fresh drinking water
- 2) **There should be** the provision of a sufficient quantity of appropriate food to maintain good health and satisfy nutritional needs.
- 3) **There should be** regular releasing from hen houses during day light hours and closure at dusk.
- 4) **There should be** protection from rodents, pests and predators.
- 5) **There should be** continuous access to shelter.
- 6) **There should be** a large enough area of clean dry bedding for lying or roosting.
- 7) **There should be** an adequate space and environment for exercise, feeding, dunging and natural; behaviour.
- 8) **There should be** adequate protection from weather. (Heat or extreme cold)
- 9) **There should be** accommodation designed and maintained so as to avoid injury or distress.
- 10) **There should be** fencing (at least 6' high and 6" below the ground) to protect against predators and ensure that the livestock cannot escape or become trapped.
- 11) **There should be** competent care and management from the allotment holder.
- 12) **They should be** housed, handled and transported in a way which causes minimum stress.
- 13) **There should be** at least twice daily visit by a competent person.

To this end the following requirements from the plot holder are to be made:-

- The holder shall give the livestock officer their phone number(s) together with details of any deputed assistant(s) in case of absence, together with a signed agreement to act as deputed assistant.
- Any period of absence where a deputy will act should be notified to the livestock officer and site manager

- Where extreme measures are required the livestock officer has the right to remove endangered animals to an alternative secure site and within 48 hours notify the holder by telephone at the specified number.
- The plot holder is expected to have knowledge and skills, or access to these, to ensure the physical and mental well being of the poultry and be able to carry out essential care such as worming, nail and wing clipping, lice and mite treatment.

The allotment association committee have the right to inspect houses and runs at any time. This will be carried out by the livestock officer and at least one other committee member. Any adverse findings will be reported to the plot holder either verbally or in writing and the fact that such a report has been made shall be given to committee members at the next bi-monthly official committee meeting.

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