

COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

DATE: 14TH FEBRUARY 2011

PURPOSE: TO CONSIDER A POLICY FOR KEEPING BEES ON
THE TOWN COUNCIL ALLOTMENT SITE

1. BACKGROUND

A request has been made by an allotment holder at the Station Road site, to keep bees on the Station Road allotments. The plot holder has requested that the hive is placed at the back of the allotment site, just behind her plot. This area, rather than her allotment plot, has been requested as the location for the hive as the allotment holder is concerned about vandalism and felt that this location would keep the bees hidden from view.

Vandalism has been a problem recently at this site; however the Town Council has installed two new higher gates on site, which are now locked. The fencing on site has also been further secured.

The “Law of Allotments” does state that allotment holders are allowed to keep bee hives on the allotment land.

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

3. CONCLUSION

If permission is given for allotment holders to keep bees on site, members need to consider whether the bee hive must be kept on the plot of the allotment holder or whether a designated area would be better served for keeping bees. A policy would need to be in place for those keeping bees – for example the Town Council may wish to obtain documents from the allotment holder, to show they have knowledge of bee keeping and are competent in dealing with any problems such as swarming. Members would also need to consider whether the other allotment holders would need to be consulted before permission is given.

Karen Moralee
2nd February 2011