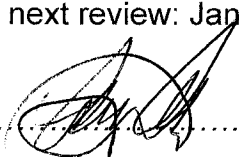


Date of policy: January 2026

Approving committee: FPGP

Date of committee meeting: December 17th 2025

Date for next review: January 2029

Signed... 

New Logo Here	Keeping Chickens on Allotments Cam Parish Council
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Under the 1950 Allotment Act, the keeping of hens and rabbits is permitted on allotments and viewed as an allotment holder's right, so long as they are for the tenant's own use and not for business or profit. However, this is subject to the following rules imposed to ensure the well-being of the birds and to assist the management of the allotment site as a whole:

- 1) Only hens may be kept – no cockerels
- 2) No tenant may keep more hens that are necessary for their personal use; for most families this will be no more than 2 – 3 hens. Permission will not normally be given for more than 5 hens
- 3) Hens to be accommodated in suitable coops/houses, which must be approved by Council before birds can be kept
- 4) The total area taken up by henhouses and runs must not exceed 50% of the total plot size
- 5) The tenant will be fully responsible for the welfare of the birds on the site and must comply with section 9 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006, which states that, they must meet all welfare needs, including
 - Continuous ready access to an adequate supply of clean fresh drinking water and provision of suitable feed fed in sufficient quantities and sufficiently frequently to maintain them in good health and to satisfy their nutritional needs. Such foodstuff should be properly protected from rodents and other pests
 - Continuous access to shelter, free from sharp edges, protrusions etc. which could cause injury, and including a clean, dry, well-bedded roosting area large enough to allow all animals using the shelter to roost together at the same time.
 - Need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease: Competent care and management from those with the knowledge and skill to ensure the animals' wellbeing as well as regular, frequent inspection (at least daily, and more frequently for vulnerable animals such as those that are ill, or very young) of each animal by a competent person. Appropriate preventative and/or curative veterinary treatment available at all times. Vaccinations, should be carried out by a veterinary surgeon, who should also advise on worming.

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The Council will carry out frequent spot checks on any hens being kept on allotments and shall order their immediate removal if it is found that the above requirements are not being met.

- 6) Tenants keeping hens must provide the Council with a 24 hour contact number for emergencies and should also consider providing contact details to other tenants on the site.
- 7) Tenants keeping hens should take out appropriate insurance against any harm that the birds might cause, e.g. by escaping into the road.
- 8) Application to keep hens must be made in writing, giving full details of the number to be kept, types of housing and enclosure and so forth, and no birds may be kept on site until permission is granted.
- 9) All housing, runs etc. to be removed from the site at the end of the tenancy