

From:

Sent: 05 November 2021 12:04

To: btcallotments <btcallotments@bridgend.gov.uk>

Subject: Appeal against Beehive on Plot 13a

Dear Leanne ,

Following the letter that I have received today dated 28th October 21 concerning permission being granted for a beehive on plot 13a . As discussed I would wish to appeal this decision on the following grounds :

My Severe Allergy to Wasps/Bees

As I have previously explained in emails and via telephone conversations with your department my allergy is classed as severe, I carry an epipen at all times , and on 2 pervious occasions that I have been stung I have been 'blue lighted' to hospital and had to receive life saving adrenaline to stop my airways closing and save my life .

I do appreciate that there is a bee hive already on site however this is situated the full length of the allotment away from the plot , plus in addition to this I deliberately choose alternative routes to my plot away from the hive not to come in contact with this area , therefore avoiding the additional opportunity of being stung .

My concern is that the beehive will be situation within 10/15 meters of my plot wherever it is located on plot 13a and should there be a incident which would cause the Bees to swarm I would be in the direct line of a flight path with an increased likelihood of being stung and my life put in danger

I appreciate that in day to day life wasps/bees are attracted to Allotments that I have a risk , however this is the same level of risk that I would be taking in a public park , street or at home in my own garden . What you are allowing by granting the permission of the beehive on plot 13a , is a concentration of 50/100 upwards of bees to be located in one area within meters of Myself , therefore increasing the likelihood of me being stung .

Since I have received your letter I have been looking into the duty of care that you should be making towards myself knowing that I have a life threatening allergy . I have found the following article which I'm sure you will find informative. I would also like to be reassured that now I have raised my concerns with yourselves that you can confirm the following:

- The beehive will not go ahead until my appeal has been heard
- Should the decision be upheld and the construction go ahead , Bridgend Town Council & The Tenant of plot 13a can provide myself with a copy of their public liability to ensure that if any occasion of a swarm occur in the future I am fully protected
- As agreed in the conversation that I had with Leanne Full minutes of the Meeting and the Appeal be sent to myself for my records .

I would like to stress at this point I really don't wish to spoil anyone's enjoyment of their allotment , it's a wonderful place to be and spend your time , however should this approval go ahead this would spoil my enjoyment of the environment as I will be constantly on stress concerned about the proximity of a potential swarm .

Allotment Beekeeping

Bees on site

- Bees make a wonderful addition to any allotment site as they play a critical role in the pollination of so many plants, especially fruit crops. Higher yields and better quality produce will result from having hives near your site.
- Bee-keeping on an allotment must be carried out by someone with experience and knowledge; local branches of the British Bee Keepers Association (BBKA) www.bbka.org.uk run 10 week Beekeeping for Beginners courses and offer advice, advanced training and examinations to their members; they also offer public liability insurance and supply a handy leaflet for allotment beekeepers [click here](#)
- Beekeepers should be members of their local association and new beekeepers should have an experienced mentor to assist and support them.
- NAS would recommend that Allotment Authorities who allow beekeeping on their sites should be able to supply aspiring beekeepers with a beekeeping policy; examples are available for NAS members from the NAS office natsoc@nsalg.org.uk
- If you wish to consider keeping bees on your allotment, then please check your tenancy agreement and consult your landlord. Self managed sites may want to consider using a vacant or hard to let plot as an apiary, where a group of beekeepers can keep their hives. It is well worth taking the time to site the apiary in the right place.
- Hives are best sited away from other plot holders, paths and public roads. The bees should be encouraged to fly over high hedges, fences or 2m screens around the hives, especially if their flight path crosses a footpath. Contact details for the beekeeper must be displayed on site.
- However, if someone on your site is allergic to bees please do discuss your plans with them first and take their medical needs into account. The BBKA have a useful leaflet about what to do when someone is stung and/or has an extreme reaction [beestings](#)

If you are an allotment bee-keeper and concerned about insecticides being sprayed by local farmers, why not sign up to [BeeConnected](#) An on-line tool that brings farmers and beekeepers together, keeping beekeepers notified when a neighbouring farmer is applying insecticides to their crops.

Regards

[Name withheld by BTC for GDPR purposes]

Plot 12, Dunraven Allotment Site