

The Purpose of this Policy: to promote harmonious relationships between pet owners and non pet owners and a peaceful, clean and safe environment for all. We wish to take positive approach, in keeping with the ethos of Bridport Cohousing.

We fully acknowledge the comfort and meaning pets give to their owners and others in the community and also that not everyone likes cats/dogs. We want our neighbourhood to be accessible to all, including those with allergies, asthma and a fear of animals. Members should be free to enjoy all activities free from any nuisance caused by pets.

1. Pet owners are responsible for taking good care of their pets.
2. To prevent incidents and for dealing with problems, owners are expected to be gracious and responsive if a complaint is received. Serious pet incidents must be addressed immediately.
3. Service dogs only in Common-house.
4. Owners are responsible for any damage caused.
5. Owners must thoroughly clear up cat/dog poo in all outdoor areas and dispose of hygienically.
6. Any animal that threatens or hurts an animal or person may be excluded at the discretion of management.
7. Members are responsible for the pets of their visitors.
8. Owners are to ensure that excessive noise is not caused by their pets.
9. On leaving a property owners are expected to use a professional cleaner for the benefit of the next occupant.

CAT/DOGS

1. No new pets to be introduced without permission of the relevant Sociocratic Circle.
2. All pets to have a 3-months trial period.
3. Owners must keep their boundaries secure.
4. Dogs have to be accompanied by owner/guardian in outdoor shared areas. Childrens play area is to be dog-free. If a dog is found unattended in shared areas the owners is to respond immediately to any request to contain/tether their animal.
5. All animals to be inoculated and neutered except when it may be detrimental to the animal's physical or behavioural health.

SMALL INDOOR PETS

These should be well cared for and are the full responsibility of the owner/household.

WILDLIFE AND STRAY PETS

Only off-ground feeders to be used to feed birds, so rats, etc. are not encouraged.

IMPLEMENTATION: The management will implement this policy, retain the right to exclude pets and may declare a moratorium on new pets.

DOG BEHAVIOUR PROBLEMS:

John Hinsley is available to enable owners to deal with issues.