

# SUMMER NEWSLETTER

## Allotments Update

Welcome to the third Allotment Update newsletter. We have included brief updates to keep you all informed.

Good luck with this years growing season, we look forward to working with you all.

Kindest regards

BATC Council Team

### Dates for the Diary

**7th June 2023 @ 5pm**

Allotment & Environment Committee,  
Town Council Offices

**June 2023**

Annual allotment inspections - check  
site for poster with dates

**June 2023**

Best allotment Plot competition  
takes place

## Water Charges 2023 -2024 onwards

The Town Council have decided to implement a water charge to all plots for from 1st November 2023. This is due to increased supply prices and some high bills for sites, this decision was not taken lightly by the Council. The revenue will be used to cover the water charges and the funds the council previously used to cover water costs will be used to cover essential maintenance and repairs on sites, resulting in greater investment moving forward.

Water butts are encouraged for water conservation. Charges will be as follows and will be itemised on the tenancy invoice for 2023-24 tenancies.

- £15 per year for all plots up to and inclusive of 149 meters square.
- £25 per year for all plots 150 meters square and above.

### Mapping Update

Thank you for your patience with the ongoing mapping exercise. This is due to be concluded by the end of May 2023. For those who have queried their plot size we will be in touch once we have the final data and to establish the actual size going forward. An drop in session will run from 3-5pm on 7th June prior to the next Allotment and Environment Committee, Town Council Offices.

If your plot size has changed you will not be charged historically if it is bigger, and likewise if it has reduced your will not receive a refund on rent paid thus far.

The new sizes apply from 1st November 2023 and will be communicated to you in your tenancy pack for 2023-24, which will be issued in September 2023.

### ANNUAL INSPECTIONS 2023

The Annual Inspections  
for all sites will take  
place during June 2023.

Please look out for  
notices on your site to  
let you know specific  
dates.

Failure to enable council  
officers to access your  
plot could result in  
enforcement action.



## BISHOP AUCKLAND GREEN FAIR 2023



Why not pop along to the green fair on the 24 June from 10am at the Methodist and Baptist churches on Cockton Hill Road. there will be a range of stalls, activities and guest speakers

**Polite Reminder -  
No more than 2 gas  
bottles permitted on  
each plot and that they  
must be securely stored.**



### Lone Worker

Near the entrance to each site you can now find the What3Words for the entrance gate location. Please take note of these as should you need to contact emergency services these this will help them locate you quickly.

*Please be respectful to fellow tenants if you bring your dog onsite. You must ensure that they are kept on a lead, and that you clean up after them. There have been recent incidents of dog fouling on cartways.*

### Annual Allotment Awards 2023

Instead of the September Horticulture Show the Town Council have introduced the BATC Allotment Awards.

Everyone is eligible, and judging will take place during June alongside the annual inspections. There will be a winner for each site, who will have their name added to the site shield, they will win a small prize and be presented with a certificate. Winners will be notified by July 2023

### Contact us:

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Let us know of broken taps or any issues you may have.