

# BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN COUNCIL ALLOTMENT NEWS

## Allotments Update



### WELCOME TO THE NEW GROWING SEASON



The last two years have been a challenge but we hope that 2022 is a good growing year for you all.

As well as Covid there has been some changes at the Town Council over the last two years. A new Town Clerk, Sarah Harris has joined the team, and Councillor Jamie Blackburn is the new Chair of the Allotment and Environment Committee after the sad passing of Councillor David Fleming in the Summer of 2021.

The Council are committed to delivering a good service for allotment holders, they are looking to implement some changes and service improvements over the summer of 2022.

Therefore over the Summer an 'Allotments Review Project' will be undertaken which will include:

- Review of 'Allotment Rules and Regulations' - Consultation will take place
- Site mapping
- Full Site and Plot inspections
- Change of Tenancy year

### ANNUAL HORTICULTURE AND TOWN SHOW 2022

The annual Horticulture and Town Show will take place in No. 42 Market Place, Bishop Auckland on Saturday 24th September 2022.

Copies of the class Schedule will be available in the Summer. Keep an eye on your site notice board for more information.



All Poultry and other captive birds can be let outside from 2nd May 2022 unless you are within a 3 km Protection Zone ore information: [www.gov.uk/bird-flu](http://www.gov.uk/bird-flu)

# Allotment Review Project 2022



## REVIEW OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Town Council Allotment rules and regulations are made in line with the Allotments Act 1908 to 1950 and apply to all allotments owned and rented by Bishop Auckland Town Council, whether association managed or otherwise.

The Council are conscious that these rules need to be reviewed to ensure that they remain fit for purpose, therefore a review is underway. There will be opportunity for you as Tenants to share your views on any of proposed changes. Keep an eye on your site notice boards for further information.

## SITE MAPPING

The Town Council site maps are somewhat out of date, therefore they are working with the Northern Counties Allotment Association to create new maps of all sites over the summer. This will ensure that the Council has accurate records.

## NEW TENANCY YEAR

A new tenancy year will be introduced from 1st October 2022 in line with the growing season, this makes it easier for tenants to leave and new ones to take over, as with the current tenancy year, often plots sit all winter with no activity making it harder for new tenants to have a productive first season.

## SITE & PLOT INSPECTIONS

Full site and plot inspections will be undertaken during June and July 2022. Following the inspections, if a tenant is found to be in breach of any of the rules, enforcement procedures will apply. A Schedule of any works needed to be undertaken will also be drawn up.

## KEY DATES 2022

- **10 June 2022** - Deadline for 2022 Tenancies and Rent to be returned.
- **June & July 2022** - Site and Plot inspections - see your site notice board for specific site dates.
- **24/09/2022** - Annual Town Horticulture Show 2022, Market Place Bishop Auckland
- **September 2022** - 2022-23 New Tenancies issued.
- **31/10/2022** - Deadline for 2022-23 Tenancies and Rents to be returned