



## Information for allotment holders on coronavirus (COVID-19)

Following the instructions around movement and gatherings from the Prime Minister on 23 March 2020, we are checking the guidance from central government but as we understand the situation at the moment it is still permitted to visit your plot, ideally on your own to take daily exercise.

It is vitally important that you follow all the advice about social distancing and hygiene in the points below and not gather together on site.

**Any plot-holder who is self isolating because a household member is ill with corona-virus should not be visiting the site.**

It is important that anyone attending the allotment takes care to stay at least two metres distance from others, avoid body contact and wash hands at taps (you may need to take water with you until the taps are switched on in April), do not wash hands or use detergents in the water tanks and please pay attention to notice boards.

It is essential that no un-authorized people are allowed onto the plots for the duration of this emergency.

Careful consideration should be given to introducing anyone over 70, those with underlying illness or pregnant women. We are living through a crisis, the likes of which none of us has experienced before, not since war time has the community spirit that exists on allotment sites been more important. Please remember to look out for one another during these very difficult times.

Allotment holders should take the following precautionary measures:

- Keep hand sanitiser in your shed and wash your hands regularly
- Use hand sanitiser before opening and closing any gate locks
- Observe "Social Distancing" with each other 2-3 metres
- Do not share tools
- Minimise the contact with each other for example no handshakes
- Do not wash your hands in water troughs
- [Guidance](#) of how to clean an area that has been visited by an infected person

- If you have chickens on the site and must visit daily, take a photograph on your phone of your chickens, based on what is happening in other countries you may eventually have to print off a government form to leave the house but if challenged it would be good to be able to show a photograph of where you are going.
- Plan ahead to ensure that you have food and medication delivered to you during this time
- Stay away from vulnerable individuals such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions as much as possible
- If you display any symptoms of coronavirus stay at home and self-isolate for at least 14 days.

All plot inspections have been postponed for the time being, as have any Town Council Environment committee meetings. This will be reviewed on 31 May 2020. It is important that any plot-holders over 70 years and those with underlying health issues follow the guidance and information issued by the government.

Anyone with questions can contact Barnstaple Town Council via email: [admin@barnstapletowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:admin@barnstapletowncouncil.gov.uk).

This is a worldwide unprecedented and challenging time for so many people and of course the health and safety of our members, volunteers, and staff remains our number one priority.

We must all consider vulnerable families, friends and fellow plot-holders and give assistance where needed.

Government advice about the Coronavirus is updated on a regular basis on the [Gov.uk website](#)

Visit the [NHS website for further information and advice](#)