



## **BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL**

# **NOTICE ALLOTMENT FIRES POLICY CHANGE**

**Following a meeting of Blyth Town Council's Environment Committee, on the 27th February 2025, it has been agreed to allow the burning of allotment waste 365 days a year. This includes the caveats below and will be for a trial period over summer months.**

**Allotment Fires can cause unnecessary disruption and negative impact on surrounding properties and plot holders, and should only be used under appropriate circumstances. It is an offence to allow smoke from a fire to cause nuisance.**

**Always consider if it is necessary to burn on your allotment plot. Can waste material be composted, recycled or taken to the nearest waste recovery centre which will take green waste?**

- ONLY BURN dry garden waste i.e. diseased plants and dried-out organic material in a considerate manner and always be aware of neighbouring properties and plot holders and how smoke may affect them. Locate your fire away from trees, fences, footpaths, roadways and buildings.
- DO NOT light fires when the wind is blowing towards neighbouring properties or business premises and give consideration and advise neighbouring plot holders when you are planning to have a fire. Be prepared to put the fire out should the wind change direction while you are burning.
- DO NOT BURN household rubbish or tyres or anything that would give rise to dark smoke such as materials containing plastic, foam or paint.
- NEVER use fuels or spirits to light a fire – you could risk damage to your health and the environment. Consider using a fire bin for your fire.
- NEVER leave a fire unattended or leave it to smoulder – always put the fire out before you leave your allotment plot.

**Please be aware that fires on allotment sites have the potential to cause smoke nuisance to nearby premises.**

**If Northumberland County Council receives a complaint about burning on the allotment site, the Council has a duty by law to investigate the complaint. You may be asked to extinguish your fire should it be deemed that your fire is causing a smoke nuisance.**

**The Council has a statutory duty to take formal action if a nuisance is found to exist, if this is necessary it may also affect your allotment tenancy.**

