

Recommendation from Allotments working group meeting 6th September 2021

Firstly I would like to start with some appreciation and recognition for the hard work of people and organisations involved in the Battishorne allotments project. Thanks to East Devon District Council for providing the grant money and to Richard Marker from Combe Estates for providing the land. Thanks to

Martin Banks and his team for creating the allotment site. Thanks to all councillors, previous and current for all your work. Big thanks to all the council staff, especially to Heloise, for all your hard work with the contractors, planning, and plotholders.

Since our last council meeting, the allotments working group and Heloise met last Monday 6th September for a visit to see the completed site. And what a beautiful spot it is, in an area of outstanding natural beauty. A meeting was then held in the Honiton Town Council office.

The following recommendations were agreed by the working group for full council to consider

- 1.Covers for the water troughs to be purchased by officers and a notice made stating that the water is for allotment use only and not drinking water
- 2.Signage should be displayed on the fencing, running parallel to the permissive path stating “Allotments, Private Property”
- 3.Signage should be erected at the top and the bottom of end of the site informing vehicle users that no parking is permitted/area for turning only.
- 4.The working group agreed on naming the site “Battishorne Allotments Way” and it recommends to full council to hold an opening ceremony, cutting of the ribbon to be done by Richard Marker on a yet to be decided date in October. Remaining grant money to be used for this event and to provide refreshment. Invites to be sent out to Richard Marker, plotholders, EDDC, Martin Banks and local media outlets and newspapers.
- 5.In line with the above recommendation, it is recommended to full council that a name plate for the gate entering the site to be quoted for, ordered and fitted in time for the opening ceremony. A proposed sign has been produced by Terry Darrant and a quote from A1 Print and Stitch has been received. This is the only quote we have received so it is recommended to full council to go ahead with this design and quote.

6. Officers are still trying to get hold of some people on the waiting list for an allotment plot, it is recommended to send out a final letter with a deadline date to get in touch with the town council to confirm their plot. A meeting is to be held with plotholders at the Beehive this Thursday 16th September for information and to assign plots. It is recommended that a proof of address is to be required by plotholders upon signing the tenancy agreement.