

NORTHALLERTON TOWN COUNCIL



Plan of Bankhead Park



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Bankhead Road Amenities: Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: Why is the Town Council installing allotments at the Bankhead Road Play Park?

A: Northallerton Town Council is committed to improving amenities for the benefit of all residents. There is currently a significant waiting list of approximately 50 residents for allotment plots within the Parish, and all existing sites are fully allocated. This development is a response to that high demand to enhance the range and quality of facilities available.

Q2: Will the allotments take up all the usable space in the park?

A: No. As shown on the site plan, the 12 new allotment plots occupy less than 10% of the total area. This ensures that the vast majority of the site remains as open green space for the general public and children to enjoy.

Q3: Is the Council also improving the existing play area? **A:** Yes. The Council is actively investing in the existing play area by installing additional equipment and fitting new goal posts to enhance the recreational value of the site.

Q4: Why were residents not formally consulted, and is planning permission required?

A: These enhancements are considered "permitted development" under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order. This legislation allows local authorities to undertake minor improvements to community amenities without a formal planning application. The decision was made as part of a wider strategic plan to meet statutory obligations for allotment provision within the Parish.

Q5: Will allotment holders be required to undergo DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks?

A: No. Under the Data Protection Act and DBS Code of Practice, criminal record checks can only be legally requested for individuals whose roles involve "regulated activity" (such as supervising children). Allotment holders are members of the public utilising a community facility and do not have unsupervised, official access to children as part of their tenancy.

Q6: How can I apply for an allotment plot?

A: Should you wish to join the waiting list for an allotment plot in Northallerton, please contact the Council at admin@northallertontowncouncil.gov.uk with your name, address, and contact information.