
BATH ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

18th November 2025

AGENDA

Welcome and annual review - Erica Draisey (Chair)

Membership update - Erica Draisey on behalf of Judith Jordan

Planning update - Jacky Wilkinson (Planning Officer)

Formal AGM - Maria Humphries (Secretary)

1. Apologies
2. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on 19th November 2024
3. Approval of the accounts
 - 3.1. Allotments Association
 - 3.2. Trading Hut
4. Approval of resolutions
 - 4.1. Trading Hut pricing model
 - 4.2. Approval of BAA Constitution updates
5. Election of officers and site representatives

Guest speaker and Q&A session - Kate Collyns Grown Green @ Hartley Farm

AOB, questions and raffle

Appendix:

- A. Membership secretary report
- B. Treasurer report
- C. Trading Hut report
- D. CropDrop update
- E. Update on actions from the 2024 AGM

BATH ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION CHAIR'S ANNUAL REVIEW 2024-2025 - ERICA DRAISEY

A warm welcome

To all members of the Bath growing community and to our partner organisations.

It has been an active year for Bath Allotments Association (BAA). We have worked with the Friends of Combe Down Allotments to retain the allotments on the Combe Down site and delivered a number of onsite projects under the Water my Plot project. I would like to thank the site representatives and the growing number of allotment growers who led and took part in activities and projects. These have not been without their challenges especially given the lack of project management support from BANES. This makes the achievements all the more significant.

Particular thanks go to Chris Pearce, site rep for Combe Down, for his strong leadership of The Friends of Combe Down Allotments in the campaign to save this historic site. It is with great sadness that the tenants left the site on 31 October but we continue to lobby and support the council in its bid to acquire the site and for its designation as a Local Green Space in the Local Plan. This will provide the site with a degree of protection against development. The site is now designated as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). This provides The Friends of Combe Down Allotments with the option to purchase the land should it be released for sale. Thank you specifically to Guin Foote for marshalling the evidence, writing and submitting the successful application. The battle is far from over and we continue to campaign and work with the council to secure the site for allotments. A comprehensive history of allotmenting in Combe Down, 1852 to 2025, can be found on our website and at <https://combedownheritage.org.uk/projects/combe-down-allotments>.

Our thanks also go to representatives who are standing down this year and those who have joined the committee. We have vacancies on Brookfield Park, Eastfield Avenue, Fairfield Park, Fairfield Valley, Foxhill and Ring Common. If you would like to consider standing please contact Maria Humphries, info@banes-allotments.org.uk, for details of the role. We do have joint representatives on many sites and this works well.

My final thanks go to Jacky Wilkinson, Maria Humphries, Judith Jordan and Charlie and Anne Love for their support, guidance and the time they devote to making sure members are well served by the Association. Judith continued in her role as Membership Secretary and Treasurer and now creates the monthly bulletins.

This year we have seen an increasing number of growers getting involved in and leading onsite activities and projects. These include: creating wildlife habitat, water harvesting, setting up microplots, taking up regenerative growing practice, helping with CropDrop as well as general maintenance. This is great as it means sites and growers really benefit from the wealth of skills and talents of fellow allotmenters. If you feel you would like to get more involved in the organisation at committee level or otherwise there are many roles which do not require a regular commitment, for instance, helping install guttering on sheds, supporting new growers, hosting events and workshops, pulling together the monthly bulletin, posting helpful and interesting posts on Instagram and indeed anything else you would like to see happen.

Please note, many of these roles do not necessitate a regular commitment. Please contact me or Maria at info@banes-allotments.org.uk.

The rest of this report includes a brief summary of the activities and actions of 2024-2025 and outline our future ambitions and plans.

BATH ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION CHAIR'S ANNUAL REVIEW 2024-2025 - ERICA DRAISEY

Priority 1: Secure the future of the current allotment sites across Bath and gain a commitment to their maintenance and improve access to resources and facilities across sites.

Priority 2: Lobby for new sites and the inclusion of all sites as Local Green Spaces in the Local Plan

The waiting list currently stands at 468. The significant issue is that with the loss of 64 plots on Combe Down Allotment exacerbates the paucity of allotment sites in this part of the city especially as a site was not identified in the area to meet the demand from Mulberry Park residents. We continue to lobby for more allotments in Bath as well as focusing on making best use of current sites – a key element of the BAA Community Infrastructure Levy bid this year, see below - and for developers to make provision for allotments on new housing development sites.

A meeting with Jackie Clayton, Head of Sustainable Development, highlighted that council officers, other than those in the Parks team, were not aware of the role allotments play in delivering elements of the council's sustainable living agenda. Jackie is now cognisant however the meeting did highlight the need for growers to make our voices heard with policy makers. To this end BAA representatives met with and developed lines of communication with key councillors including Sarah Warren, Bathavon North, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Sustainable B&NES; Oli Henman, Walcot and Cabinet Project Lead for Climate Change; Jess David, Moorlands; Member Advocate for Green Infrastructure and Nature Recovery; John Leach, Walcot, Member Advocate for Climate Resilience as well as Ian Halsall, Oldfield Park, Oldfield Park, member of the planning committee. BAA also has representation on the BANES Food Strategy Steering Group. On every occasion we make sure that councillors and officers are made aware of importance of allotments in the City landscape. We would ask you talk to your local councillors about allotments so that our growing spaces remain in the forefront of their thinking.

Key issues we raised were:

- The absence of a Council endorsed up to date allotment strategy and costed management plan
- Reduction in staffing in the Parks Team and ensuing difficulty in leveraging allotment maintenance under the current council project management arrangements
- Absence of a tree management scheme for allotment sites which has led to the creation of unworkable plots/site
- The challenge of delivering the BANES Council's standard of 0.3 ha allotment provision per 1000 population as stated in the Green Space Strategy 2015-2029
- Lack of transparency of the allocation and spend of legacy and future Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) generated from housing developments including the ex MOD sites, Western Riverside and the new developments built/emerging along the Lower Bristol Road is being used, particularly in relation to the allotments provision and improvement.

Despite Keith Rowe's best efforts very few projects have been undertaken to either maintain or improve the allotment sites. With no access to project management resource the capital allocation for repairs and maintenance cannot be spent and continues to depreciate.

Jacky Wilkinson has made further submissions to the Local Plan in support of Local Green Space designation for all allotment sites, see Jacky's report.

BATH ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION CHAIR'S ANNUAL REVIEW 2024-2025 - ERICA DRAISEY

Priority 3: Deliver the projects outlined in Water my Plot and roll out projects on other sites.

The Year 1 project had four themes.

1. Establishing accessible and sustainable water systems on all site through maximise rain water storage and natural water supply.
 - 80 additional water butts have been sold at a subsidised cost to members across numerous sites making 160 in total
 - Refurbishment of communal shed on Lower Common West in preparation for water capture
 - Stream water harvesting on Claremont sponsored by Councillor Discretionary Fund
 - Water testing on Lyncombe Vale undertaken in preparation for water capture scheme
 - Two new water capture schemes for microplots on Claremont and Monksdale sponsored by Wessex Water
2. Promotion of regenerative growing techniques to maximise water retention and healthy soils.
 - Our thanks to John Ingham who leads a group of 28 growers as they exchange ideas and practical approaches to regenerative growing through onsite workshops and the active WhatsApp group
 - Survey undertaken to find out how we can communicate the ideas effectively to those new to regenerative growing
 - Construction of access and collection point for leaf mulch and chippings on Abbey View
 - Established trial plots on Bloomfield, Claremont and LCE
3. Promote wildlife on plots, gardens and sites
 - Biodiversity WhatsApp group continues to grow (47 members) from across 6 sites in Bath
 - New community pond on King George's and plot ponds on Monksdale and Moorfields
 - Workshop run by Froglife's Sheila Gundry. 'How to' instructions (Just add water) can be found at <https://www.froglife.org>
 - Wildlife corridor established on Claremont
 - Bioblitz led by Mike Williams, Bath Natural History Society (BNHS), on Ring Common and Claremont hosted by Simon Crowe and Amy Shawcross respectively. Mike has produced excellent reports, see Biodiversity section of the website for full reports and details of how to undertake a bioblitz
4. Establish microplots on larger sites to support those new to growing and reduce churn
 - We now have 20 microplots. These are located on Bloomfield, Claremont, Lower Common East (LCE), Lower Common West (LCW), Larkhall and Monksdale Allotment sites

BATH ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION CHAIR'S ANNUAL REVIEW 2024-2025 - ERICA DRAISEY

Priority 4: Extend the workshop and offers to members sponsored by the Trading Hut

These underpin the initiatives and have been ably and enthusiastically led by Carol Stone

- Winter Pruning hosted on Bloomfield and Larkhall
- Plants, sprays and brews at Alice Park Community Garden
- Perennial planting hosted on Foxhill
- What to do on your plot in autumn and winter at The Urban Garden

Priority 5: Improve communications

Lois Brewer created the new BAA website and promotional materials including logo. These were launched in January.

Regular monthly bulletin for members was introduced this summer.

Signage created for BAA on site projects designed by Fiona Powers.

Resources and Partnerships

The Trading Hut continues to be an invaluable resource available to all members. I should like to thank Charlie and Anne Love and the volunteer sales team who provide advice as well as making sure the Trading Hut is open throughout the year. Charlie and Anne are looking to the future and would welcome suggestions about how we develop this service and succession planning.

This year we have maintained our partnerships activities with The Urban Garden, Bath Organic Group (BOG), CropDrop and Claverton & District Horticultural Society.

Our members from Larkhall, Claremont, Bloomfield, LCE, LCW, Monksdale and High Common made generous donations to CropDrop partner Food Clubs and Pantries.

Other partners include: Sarah Ayling, University of the West of England, BNHS and Froglife. These partnerships have proved invaluable in shaping and delivering our plans as an organisation this year.

BATH ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION CHAIR'S ANNUAL REVIEW 2024-2025 - ERICA DRAISEY

Priorities for 2025-2026

1. Continue to work with council officers and councillors to maintain current sites and secure new allotment sites in Bath
2. Secure a BANES Allotment Strategic Plan and fully costed and resourced management plan
3. Deliver Water my Plot Year 2 priorities, which are:
 - Plot rescue and creation. Increase numbers of plots on sites taking into commission hard to let and marginal land on sites
 - Increase number of microplots on sites for those new to growing
 - Promote sustainable soil management and biodiversity
 - Provide members with the resources to capture, store and use rainwater

We welcome your comments on items to include in BAA plans and you can be assured that we shall represent members' views and feedback at every stage of the process.

Erica Draisey

Chair, Bath Allotment Association

chairman@banes-allotments.org.uk

Maria Humphries

Secretary, Bath Allotment Association

info@banes-allotment.org.uk

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - ERICA DRAISEY

- Membership continues to increase slowly over time. We have around 470 members rising to 700+ if we include 'linked' members.
- Turnover remains quite high in terms of leavers and new joiners.
- Has proved difficult to monitor site-specific membership data this year as many joining via online payments don't fill in the membership form and tell us which site they are on. We are following up on this but it is a time-consuming exercise.
- We have extended one year honorary membership to those who were members but have lost their plots on the Combe Down site.

Judith Jordan

Membership secretary, Bath Allotment Association

membership@banes-allotments.org.uk

PLANNING REPORT - JACKY WILKINSON

Planning matters.

What does the Association do ?

The Association plays an active role in lobbying on behalf of its members to get better protection for allotments against potential development. We are also engaging with Councillors to recognise the importance of allotments to urban biodiversity, social well-being and tackling the climate emergency. We also comment on individual planning applications which might affect sites, and also on Strategies, Plans, White Papers etc which could affect allotments.

Why do we do it ?

Every Council has to have an adopted Local Plan. All Local Plans are overarched by mandatory Government Policies and Guidance. When making a Local Plan, the Council is required to go through a set procedure of stages public consultation. We make representations on your behalf. The B&NES Local Plan is under review right now.

What are the issues ?

Local Plans determine how much development we have in our area and where it will be allowed. Allotments and local food growing are classed as Green Infrastructure along with parks, play spaces and sports facilities. New housing, for example, should have Green Infrastructure as required by the Council's Special Planning Documents and Strategies. Unfortunately this is not always the case. The Government's new housing targets are likely to be given a higher priority over Green Spaces.

PLANNING REPORT - JACKY WILKINSON

What have we said ?

At the last AGM I reported on our submissions made to the New Local Plan Options Consultation. These related to getting Local Green Space designations for allotment sites which, for one reason or another, had not been designated in the previous 2015 Plan. Top of the list was Combe Down.

The progress of the Plan was halted when the Government imposed new compulsory housing targets. I have had to set out yet again our case for this protective designation for the 130 year old Combe Down site in the light of the Council's recent acceptance of the site as an Asset of Community Value. At the heart of the problem is a perceived clash between policies protecting the Bath stone deposits up at Combe Down and the use of the site as allotments. My full analysis is posted on our website.

I have also sent responses to the Council's consultations on the draft Developers Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (posted on the website) and the proposed allotments on the Derrymans field at the Sulis development (ref 22/01370/FUL).

The Community Infrastructure Levy.

Most developments in B&NES have to pay a levy, which is pooled and shared out to Parishes in the rural area and in Bath to the Bath Area Forum. Last year we succeeded in achieving a grant of £14,000 for WatermyPlot project. This we are seeking a further £19,000 from the CIL pot to continue Year 2. We aim to increase the capacity of sites by tackling hard-to-let plots, running microplots and encouraging water-wise sustainable growing practices' rain and spring water harvesting.

Thankyou to everyone who responded to my email on the Consultations.

Just to remind you that I'm happy to respond to any concerns you may have about Planning issues arising affecting your sites.

Jacky Wilkinson

Planning, Bath Allotment Association, planning@banes-allotments.org.uk

I. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from:-

- Kerry Rogers
- Guy Bardoe
- Anne Love
- Charlie Love
- Melanie Gilbert-Smith
- Hilary Sheppard
- Cllr. John Leach
- Keith Rowe
- Cllr. Sarah Warren
- Cllr. Jess David
- Cllr. Onkar Saini

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 19 / 11 / 2024

Approval proposed by -

Approval seconded by -

3.1. APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS - ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Key points :-

- Funds in a healthy position with over 12k in the bank of which approximately
 - £3,000 BAA operational funds
 - £9,000 WmP funds committed to projects but yet to be spent
 - £600 WCEF money to be spent at Claremont site
- Membership fee held at £6.50 for more than 10 years. We may be need to consider an increase in future due to popularity of card payment which means we only receive £6.20 after fee deduction, inflation, increased BAA events and activities and other pressures on BAA operational funds. Any proposal will be consulted on and presented at the AGM for approval or not.

Approval proposed by -

Approval seconded by -

3.1. APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS - ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

<u>Funds</u>	2024-25				
	Total	Operations	WmP	Projects Wessex Water	WCEF
Brought forward 1/10/2024	20,036.44	4,653.29	14,383.15	1,000.00	0.00
Income	5,577.97	3,163.68	1,814.29		600.00
Expenditure	-12,876.28	-4,703.54	-7,210.85	-961.89	
Net Movement for Year to 30/09/2025	-7,298.31	-1,539.86	-5,396.56	-961.89	600.00
Creditors	-36.84	-36.84			
Carry forward 30/09/2025	12,701.29	3,076.59	8,986.59	38.11	600.00
<u>Assets as at 30/09/2025</u>					
Cash at bank as at 30/09/2025	12,713.10				
Petty cash	25.03				
Committed to creditors as at 30/09/2025	-36.84				
Total	12,701.29				

Independently examined by Tony Davies 23/10/2025

3.2. APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS - TRADING HUT

Key points:-

- The Trading Hut finances remain in a healthy state
 - As at years end the bank account stood at £6,294.46, significantly lower than last year but the Allotment Association was yet to repay the £1,092.00 for the WMP water butts purchased by the Trading Hut
 - Sales from the Trading Hut were significantly higher than last year
 - Stock levels at years end were much lower than 2024
- The Trading Hut has approached the council to allow another storage shed to be constructed behind the existing container. This would be a major expenditure in 2026.
- Accounts independently examined by Tony Davies (22nd October 2025).

Approval proposed by -

Approval seconded by -

3.2. APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS - TRADING HUT

Accounts summary

£	2024-25	2024-25 WMP	2023-24	2023-24 WMP	Statement of Assets	2024-25	2023-24
Income							
Seeds	2,394		2,610		Metro Bank	6,294	7,450
Sundries	7,396		6,131		Cash	0	0
Administrative costs	13		0		Stock	2,841	3,387
Water my plot	0	2,515	0	2,184	Total balance	9,135	10,837
Total	9,802	2,515	8,741	2,184			
Expenditure							
Seeds	2,880		2,720		Change in net	-1,702	569
Stock	5,840		5,518				
Admin	574		272				
Improvement costs	572		0				
Water my plot	0	3,607	0	2,184			
Total	9,866	3,607	8,510	2,184			
Net	-64	-1,092	231	0			

Independently examined by Tony Davies 22/10/2025

4.1. APPROVAL OF TRADING HUT PRICING

Key points:-

- The Trading Hut has no fixed pricing model for sales. Typically merely rounding up costs to a simple number to aid sales arithmetic!
- However sales and associated asset levels (below) have steadily risen from 2017 to today despite the reduction in profit margin and many items to close to cost price.
 - 2017 £7536
 - 2018 £7880
 - 2019 £8947
 - 2020 £9827
 - 2021 £9749
 - 2022 £10268
 - 2023 £10837
 - 2024 £10227 (including.WMP)
- The Trading Hut proceeds fund the Associations Small Projects initiative (but there are limited numbers of these) and recently has sponsored the talks given on the allotments.
- We propose to keep this process but must consider how best to spend the growing funds for the benefit of all members.

Approval proposed by -

Approval seconded by -

4.2. APPROVAL OF THE BAA CONSTITUTION

Key points:-

- Name change from B&NES Allotments Association to Bath Allotments Association
- Officers updated to include Trading Hut Procurement and Sales
- Objectives updated as follows
 - promote the establishment, and securing over the long term, of new allotments in accordance with the adopted Council Green Infrastructure standards
 - promote the protection and good management of allotments in the B&NES area, with special reference to those within or serving the residents of the City of Bath
 - promote the establishment and use of land in the Bath area as allotments and to conduct negotiations with the local authority and private landowners to that end
 - promote and protect the gardening and growing interests of members
 - obtain a supply of seeds, fertilisers, goods and other horticultural equipment and sundries on behalf of members at as competitive a price as possible
 - encourage and support members to grow in an environmentally sustainable way, without causing harm to other growers.
 - co-operate with other gardening associations in matters of mutual interest promote the health and activity benefits of allotment gardening
 - promote knowledge of the importance of biodiversity and wildlife on allotment sites

Approval proposed by -

Approval seconded by -

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND SITE REPRESENTATIVES - OFFICERS

OFFICERS	CANDIDATES NAMES
Chair	Erica Draisey
Secretary	Maria Humphries
Membership Secretary	Judith Jordan
Treasurer	Maria Humphries
Planning Officer	Jacky Wilkinson
Publicity & Communications Officer	VACANCY
Trading Hut (BOG representative)	Kate Mills
Trading Hut (Sales)	Anne Love
Trading Hut (Buyer)	Charlie Love

Approval proposed by -

Approval seconded by -

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND SITE REPRESENTATIVES - SITE REPRESENTATIVES

SITE	CANDIDATES NAME	SITE	CANDIDATES NAME
Abbey View	Dasha Charlton	Hampton Row	Mark Oliver
Avon Park	Andy Lenthall	High Common	Peter Fox
Bloomfield Road	Erica Draisey	King Georges Road	Jenny Bakhoff
Brookfield Park	VACANCY	Larkhall	Jon Walker
Canal Gardens	Graham Bachmann	Lower Common East	Jim Lee
Claremont Road	Jacky Wilkinson, Michael Duckett	Lower Common West	Tim Baines
Combe Down	Chris Pearce	Lyncombe Hill Farm	Steve Marshall
Corston View	Hilary Sheppard, Ron White	Lyncombe Vale	Tim Davis (New)
Eastfield Avenue	VACANCY	Mendip Gardens	Guy Bardoe
Fairfield Park	VACANCY	Monksdale	Maria Humphries, Andrew Baker
Fairfield Valley	VACANCY	Moorfields	Kerry Rogers
Foxhill	VACANCY	Ring Common	VACANCY

Approval proposed by -

Approval seconded by -

GUEST SPEAKER - KATE COLLYNS

Guest Speaker Kate Collyns from Grown Green will be sharing with us practical advice and tips for organic growing on our allotments. Kate Collyns describes herself as organic market gardener, author, speaker, educator and mud herder!

She set up Grown Green, a triple award winning organic market gardener, based at Hartley Farm in Winsley, in 2010 following a two year Soil Association Horticultural Apprenticeship. Kate's growing practice is based on working with nature to produce the best fresh fruit, vegetables, salads and herbs whilst regenerating the soil and supporting pollinators and natural predators.

Kate is a member of the Organic Growers Alliance and the Landworker's Alliance and has featured on BBC Countryfile Winter Diaries and Farming Today.

You may be interested in Kate's publication: Philosophy for Gardener as a gift for gardening friends.

AOB

APPENDIX

- A. Membership secretary report
- B. Treasurer report
- C. Trading Hut report
- D. CropDrop update
- E. Update on actions from the 2024 AGM

A. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT - JUDITH JORDAN

In 2024 - 2025, (as of 30/6/25•) the membership was as follows:

Membership Type	2024/25	2023/24
Standard paid membership	467	447
Honorary members	14	19
Combe Down honorary members (1 year)	0	37
Linked members	237	163
Total active membership	704	666
Of which New joiners	106	115
Leavers / not renewed	86	80

- Those who joined after 31/6/25 have their membership extended to allotment year 2024/5

The membership by site data as displayed in the second table is not helpful this year as many of those joining or renewing online have omitted to complete the membership form fully and haven't told us which sites they are on. As a result, it appears as if membership on sites has gone down while total membership has gone up. We are chasing up the missing data but it is a slow process and we will reissue the data when it is more complete.

The standard paid membership has increased by 20 members up from 447 in 22/23. Roughly a quarter of our membership for the year comprised new joiners (106 new members) indicating that 86 members left or did not renew. The main reason for leaving remains 'giving up plot' – often for age-related health reasons or because of a house move.

During the year we, unsurprisingly, lost members from the Combe Down site because they had been served notice that their tenancy was ending. The honorary and 'administrative members category refers to are representatives from partner organisations to our honorary membership list to facilitate communication with regard to the Water My Plot project. This latter group might be better described as virtual members because they are added for administrative convenience and don't have access to the Trading Hut or other member benefits.

Waiting times are down slightly on many sites even though interest in taking on allotments remains high. We have been liaising with Gerard Parry, our Council Allotments Officer, to speed up the letting process for abandoned plots and are the micro-plots trial on the Bloomfield, Claremont, Monksdale and LCE sites have proved successful.

A. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT - JUDITH JORDAN

Membership by site

Site	Members 2024-25 (2023-24)	**Total Plots at Site	***Waiting times	Site	Members 2024-25 (2023-24)	**Total Plots at Site	***Waiting times
Abbey View	23 (27)	61	2 years +	King George’s Road	4 (5)	18	3 years +
Avon Park	4 (5)	11	2 years +	Larkhall	29(33)	99	6 months +
Bloomfield	53 (49)	158	6 months +	Lower Common East	67(66)	147	1 years +
Brookfield Park	2 (5)	13	2 years +	Lower Common West	3(20)	61	1 years +
Canal Gardens	20(23)	48	2 years +	Lyncombe Hill Farm	16(19)	56	2 years +
Claremont	21(22)	55	3 years +	Lyncombe Vale	5(6)	12	1 years +
Combe Down *	10(25)	0		Mendip Gardens	6 (4)	18	4 years +
Corston View	7(8)	19	2 years+	Monksdale	35(40)	149	6 months +
Eastfield	2 (2)	23	2 years +	Moorfields	7 (6)	34	1 month +
Fairfield Park	5(5)	57	1 year +	Ring Common	9(11)	78	1 years +
Fairfield Valley	1 (3)	20	2 year +	St Stephens	9(7)	Not available	
Foxhill	6 (6)	10	4 years +	Station Road	3 (3)	Not available	
Hampton Row	6(7)	12	8 years +	Baytree	5(4)	Not available	
Haydon	2 (2)	Not available		Bath City Farm	1(2)	Not available	
High Common	6 (7)	37	2 years +	Leisure Gardeners	7(5)	Not applicable	

** As listed on the B&NES Council website on 4/10/25; *** As listed on Council website 4/10/25

Please note not all active members identify their site so it isn’t possible to fully reconcile the active and honorary members data with the site data.

B. TREASURER REPORT - JUDITH JORDAN

The opening bank balance carried forward from the last financial year was £20,011.41 and the closing balance at the end of the year (30/09/2025) was £12,713.10. Much of our income and expenditure in 2024/5 related to grants we bid for successfully the previous financial year - £14k for the Water My Plot initiative which was funded from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) distributed by B&NES Council and a £1k grant from the Wessex Water Foundation. This year we have received a grant of £600 for a water project on the Claremont site from the Ward Councillors Empowerment Fund (WCEF).

Income

Our primary source of non-grant revenue is our annual membership fee which has remained unchanged, at £6.50, for many years. Last year we introduced the option for members to pay online by card using the Stripe platform and this has proved very popular. Stripe charges a percentage fee for its services so we only receive, on average, £6.20 from members who pay this way. This year's membership income was £3,042.58 which is up from the previous year due to an increase in membership.

Each year we receive inadvertent payments from members crediting the Association rather than the Council or the Trading Hut. These are the entries that appear under the miscellaneous heading. Mis-payments are refunded but some mis-payments are hard to track down and refunds sometimes span financial years hence the apparent differences between mis-payments received and money refunded – the net position appearing as part of payment commitments to creditors.

Donations were collected for coffee and cake at the AGM and were sent to Dorothy House.

B. TREASURER REPORT - JUDITH JORDAN

Expenditure

This year's expenditure is heavily influenced by the priorities set in our grant bids which centre on improving rainwater capture and use, encouraging biodiversity and promoting regenerative growing.

The cost of public liability insurance for our members has reduced slightly this year and we maintain our affiliated membership of the RHS. Members are reminded that our RHS membership comes with a discounted entry fee to RHS gardens on production of our RHS membership cards – so please borrow the card if you are planning a visit to a RHS garden.

There has been a jump in our expenditure on the website and social media as we undertook a major redesign of the website this year. The feedback from site reps and members has been very positive and we continue to seek ways of improving our communication with members and making our voice heard in the local political arena.

Our main events were the AGM with a guest speaker from The Pig and our annual produce show held in conjunction with Claverton Down Horticultural Society. We also cooperated with the Bear Flat Association for the annual Allotment Theatre production by Mikron. We have also run a series of successful workshops for which we have paid the workshop leaders a small fee or have donated to a charity of their choice.

Judith Jordan (14/10/25)

B. TREASURER REPORT - JUDITH JORDAN

Income £	2024-25					2023-24				
	Total	Operations	Projects			Total	Operations	Projects		
			WmP	WW	WCEF			WmP	WW	
Membership	3,042.58	3,042.58				2,835.06	2,835.06			
Grant: Water my plot CIL	1,814.29		1,814.29			14,000.00		14,000.00		
Grant: Wessex Water	0.00					1,000.00			1,000.00	
Grant: WCEF	600.00				600.00					
Water my plot contributions	0.00					622.05		622.05		
Mispayments	111.11	111.11				630.17	630.17			
Donations at AGM	9.99	9.99				16.00	16.00			
Total	5,577.97	3,163.68	1,814.29	0.00	600.00	19,103.28	3,481.23	14,622.05	1,000.00	

B. TREASURER REPORT - JUDITH JORDAN

Expenditure	2024-25					2023-24				
	Total	Operations	Projects			Total	Operations	Projects		
			WmP	Wessex Water	WCEF			WmP	Wessex Water	
RHS Membership	47.00					45.00				
Public Liability	361.27					445.75				
Website	2,702.22					455.90				
Office	496.50					75.00				
Events	700.00					500.00				
Meetings	170.40					188.00				
BAA projects	26.88									
Project expenditure:-										
Water initiatives	8,172.74		7,210.85	961.89		2,364.63		2,364.63		
Biodiversity initiative	0.00					144.61		144.61		
Regenerative growing initiatives	0.00					226.01		226.01		
Comms and meetings	0.00					503.65		503.65		
Gifts	125.00									
Save Combe Down	0.00					422.25		422.25		
Donations	0.00					112.25		112.25		
Refunds of mispayments	74.27					681.07		681.07		
Total	12,876.28	4,703.54	7,210.85	961.89	0.00	6,164.12	2,925.22	3,238.90		0.00

B. TREASURER REPORT - JUDITH JORDAN

<u>Funds</u>	2024-25				
	Total	Operations	WmP	Projects Wessex Water	WCEF
Brought forward 1/10/2024	20,036.44	4,653.29	14,383.15	1,000.00	0.00
Income	5,577.97	3,163.68	1,814.29		600.00
Expenditure	-12,876.28	-4,703.54	-7,210.85	-961.89	
Net Movement for Year to 30/09/2025	-7,298.31	-1,539.86	-5,396.56	-961.89	600.00
Creditors *	-36.84	-36.84			
Carry forward 30/09/2025	12,701.29	3,076.59	8,986.59	38.11	600.00
* Creditors include mis-payments not yet refunded					
<u>Assets as at 30/09/2025</u>					
Cash at bank as at 30/09/2025	12,713.10				
Petty cash	25.03				
Committed to creditors as at 30/09/2025	-36.84				
Total	12,701.29				

Independently examined by Tony Davies 23/10/2025

C. TRADING HUT REPORT - CHARLIE LOVE

A Bath Allotments Association and Bath Organic Group Enterprise

Bath Allotments Association

Trading Hut Treasurer's Report 2024/25 Period covering 01/10/2024 to 30/09/2025

Income

Revenue for the year was £9,802.21, higher than last year (£8,740.68). The purchase of the water butts for the Water My Plot project did go through the TH accounts but has been listed separately. Income included £2,393.58 from orders for Kings, although some income for this is likely to be included in sales due to lack of information. Sales of potatoes, onions etc. are included in stock sales. Administration income was £13, from Allotment Association membership payments.

Expenditure

Expenditure was £9,866.08. Expenditure was higher than last year in part due to increased sales.

Neither Revenue nor Expenditure includes an additional £2,184.00 paid out re the Water My Plot (WmP) scheme, for the purchase of water butts on behalf of the Allotments Association. Currently the Allotment Association needs to repay £1,092.00 to the Trading Hut and this is shown on the final statement of assets.

The Kings Seeds order was slightly larger than the previous year. Note that the expenditure for Kings was greater than the income because of the purchase of Kings Seeds for sale in the TH, and people paying the TH for Kings seeds, but without a reference, so these get added to general sales.

Administrative costs were £574.11; a significant amount was due to the purchase of a gazebo (£200) for TH and AA use, and for the end of year social event to thank the TH & AA volunteers.

The Trading Hut spent £542.00 on supporting courses for Allotment Association members and is listed under 'Events'. These included; "Plant Sprays & Brews", "Perennial Vegetables", "What to sow Now" and "Winter Fruit Tree Pruning".

There was one 'gift' of £30.00 to the teenager Laurie Baker for his help with the Trading Hut.

C. TRADING HUT REPORT - CHARLIE LOVE

A Bath Allotments Association and Bath Organic Group Enterprise

Bath Allotments Association

Trading Hut Treasurer's Report 2024/25 Period covering 01/10/2024 to 30/09/2025

Assets

At years end stock levels were £2,840.80, slightly lower than 2023-24. Stock is valued on the basis of 'Current Best Price'.

The Metro Bank account holdings were £6,294.46 (but would be £7,386.46 when the WMP refund from the AA is received).

If one includes the stock value, the closing net overall asset value/funds was £9,135.26, a decrease of £1,702.37 on 2024, but when the WMP expenditure is repaid there will be a smaller decrease of £610.37, largely due to the purchase of the gazebo and sponsorship of the events.

Charlie Love has compiled the treasurers report with the assistance of Maria Humphries. The accounts have been reviewed by Tony Davies.

Charlie Love (23/10/25)

C. TRADING HUT REPORT - CHARLIE LOVE

A Bath Allotments Association and Bath Organic Group Enterprise

Accounts summary

£	2024-25	2024-25 WMP	2023-24	2023-24 WMP	Statement of Assets	2024-25	2023-24
Income							
Seeds	2,394		2,610		Metro Bank	6,294	7,450
Sundries	7,396		6,131		Cash	0	0
Administrative costs	13		0		Stock	2,841	3,387
Water my plot	0	2,515	0	2,184	Total balance	9,135	10,837
Total	9,802	2,515	8,741	2,184			
Expenditure							
Seeds	2,880		2,720		Change in net	-1,702	569
Stock	5,840		5,518				
Admin	574		272				
Improvement costs	572		0				
Water my plot	0	3,607	0	2,184			
Total	9,866	3,607	8,510	2,184			
Net	-64	-1,092	231	0			

Independently examined by Tony Davies 22/10/2025

D. CROPDROP UPDATE - FIONA BELL



2025 Report

CropDrop coordinates the redistribution of fruit and vegetables from bountiful allotments and growers. We link allotments and food projects within the same area to help strengthen communities and minimise the food miles of the allotment produce.

In our 6th year of operation we have continued the policies of:

- matching one allotment site with one affordable food project to build the relationships between the two organisations
- setting up the collection/delivery arrangements from the outset either with the food project collecting the produce from the allotment site or allotmentees delivering produce to the food project, so that stronger, sustainable relationships develop.

Another year, another growing pattern – the early warm weather resulted in several allotments being ready to share earlier than last year and there were different vegetables which produced surplus. For example there were many more donated dwarf beans and very few runner beans!

When the donating season concludes, our infographic for 2025 will show produce from 10 sources was shared with 8 recipient affordable food projects. This compares to the 2024 report where 7 sources shared produce with 8 recipients. All the links shared surplus fresh, locally grown produce weekly.

We were excited to welcome two new allotment sites into the CropDrop operation:



Larkhall allotments, with Jon, their enthusiastic rep., leapt into donating not once but twice a week: to the Larkhall's New Oriel Hall on Mondays for their community meal and to Oasis City Centre Pantry on Thursdays.

High Common approached us mid-season and through Melanie, their super enthusiastic contact, and the support of the Allotment Association we were able to set them up with a donation cupboard within 10 days and launch Monday donations to the Mercy in Action Pantry.

Claremont allotments' Pete deserves a mention for taking on the delivery of the weekly donations to New Oriel Hall in Larkhall, which was much appreciated.

CropDrop has supported the campaign to save Combe Down allotments. We are very sad that the site has now been vacated – and still hope this is only for a short while.



We collaborated with Jason, Lower Common East rep., and Sue at Keynsham allotments to deliver food activities for the **Holiday Activity & Food** programme (HAF) in the school holidays. Three 'taste the difference' sessions were held with Excel Tennis groups.

Bath Rugby Foundation's group at Castle Primary, Keynsham savoured "all about peas" and had a perfect visit to the allotments – where everybody had a delightful time.

The results were shared at a Feeding Britain webinar in September. The main conclusion is that, with the appropriate support, B&NES could do a lot more about the 'F' in HAF for these young people. Allotments can contribute to this opportunity – so watch this space in 2026.

Gleaning Produce from farms, commercial growers and orchards

CropDrop participates in one-off gleans of produce from farms and growers in B&NES. One glean session can provide a bonus bounty of fresh produce to many affordable food projects in the local area.

For a sixth year CropDrop collected and distributed pumpkins from Newton Farm and has collected surplus squash and pumpkins from Avon Valley Farm – sharing the bounty with Bath & Keynsham projects and Fareshare SW. This was all achieved with the help of 11 volunteers, including 7 students from Bristol University Air Squadron.



It has been a bumper year for apples. Many kilograms have been harvested from gardens & orchards and shared with food projects or taken to Bath City Farm for juicing and pasteurising. We hope the links between the food projects, Fareshare SW and Bath City Farm can be developed to harvest next year's fruit, help with the juicing & pasteurising and receive local apple juice back in the pantries.

Looking to 2026

We continue to work closely with the Bath Allotment Association :

- to connect more allotments with food projects such as Abbey View and Canal Gardens
- to seed more growing knowledge and confidence into areas like Twerton and Whiteway, by collaborating with the Twerton & Whiteway Network and Bath City Farm.

We will

- arrange CropDrop deliveries for the Grow for Life project surplus and Genesis Life project when they move back to the refurbished Gateway Centre
- build on the experiences of the 2025 apple harvest to explore a 'Bath Fruit Tree Amnesty'

Fiona Bell, 31/10/25

E. UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM THE 2024 AGM

Action	Raised by	Owner	Update	Status
WMP - ideas welcomed from members to include in plans and bid for years 2 and 3 funding	ED	ED	Ideas gathered and incorporated into Y2 plan	Closed
Follow up re Entry Hill opportunity	Jon Lucas	ED	Entry Hill has been surveyed and deemed unsuitable for allotments. This may be revisited.	Open - no immediate action
Request for additional support from members	ED	ED	Many more members across sites across have been involved in projects and activities this year linked to WmP projects.	Ongoing
Request for additional support for the Trading Hut	CL	CL	Request remains open	Ongoing
Changing the Councils rules and guidance - small working group to be set up	ED	ED	A small group has looked at a revision of the rules. Summary to be presented to members and shared with officers for consideration.	In progress
Working group to be set up to formulate a strategy to safeguard existing council owned allotment sites and consideration re making all sites ACVs	Guy Bardoe / Jacqueline Burrows	JW	No progress made.	Open
Stricter rules required re bonfires	'Post it notes'	ED	Polling on some sites show that there are mixed views. We shall ask council to gauge opinion of all plotholders. In the meantime BAA will promote alternatives to burning waste via the newsletter and site WhatsApp groups.	In progress
Workshop requests - ones, espaliers / fruit trees, pruning fruit trees, pruning rose bushes	'Post it notes'	ED	Workshops undertaken this year - see Chair's report for details.	Closed
Raised beds at KGR, access for elderly / disabled is very poor	'Post it notes'	ED	No progress made.	Open
LCW - vandalism and trespassing control, compost and mulch not available	'Post it notes'	ED	No progress on vandalism control but council contacted re delivering of mulch/chippings to site. Request for schedule of deliveries.	In progress