Baildon Horticultural Society
Minutes of the meeting dated 9th June 2025
The Bull's Head

PRESENT: Neal Parry (NP), Louise Mallinson (LM), Sharon Burrows (SB), Dale Holgate (DH), Richard Nottidge (RN), Robin Weedon (RW) and Claire Bray (CB).

1. Apologies for absence:
Mike Webster (MW)

2. Chairs opening remarks:
NP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. Actions from previous meetings:

I. 2025 RHS Trip (CB)
One more person booked on, TBC. Confirmed numbers with Bridgewater.

II. Reserve fund (ALL)
Is there any work at either site that needs doing. Suggestions so far:
TL front fence.
Signage at front of TL site**.**
Insurances
Action: Keep this item on future agendas.

III. Consider management agreement update (ALL)
8.11 The Society will maintain in good order all internal fences, walls and ditches, but may trim trees to ease access to the site and may trim hedges which overhang the site.
8.12 The external boundaries are not the responsibility of the Society, nor are any claims arising from these boundaries. These will be inspected, assessed and maintained by the Council.
Action: Keep this item on future agendas.

IV. Red telephone boxes (RW)
RW attended the Environmental Committee meeting. £500 budget for 25/26 for the maintenance of the telephone boxes is confirmed. There has been some work done on the garden area at the Junction pub and a planter that was previously part of the area maintained along with the phone box has been removed. Joe Ashton from Baildon Town Council was in attendance at the meeting and will the area that belongs to the phone box.
Action: RW to keep in touch with BTC/Joe Ashton.

V. Tree nursery at Thompson Lane (RN)
No budget allocated 25/26. Funds available in the tree fund held by BTC.
Action: Matter complete.

VI. **CCTV (MW/RN)**
Installed and working.
Action: Matter complete.

VII. **Water bill and meter readings (DH/SB)**
Charlestown water meter reading given to SB.
Action: SB will submit the reading.

VIII. **Charlestown – plot holder requested permission to trim cherry tree (DH/NP)**
Action: DH will speak with the plot holders.

IX. **Gate at Charlestown (NP)**
All fine since rule change (if there are 4 or more cars in the car park the gate can be left open).
Action: Matter complete.

X. **Bank account (SB)**
Santander account fees £25 per month rising to £30 per month.
Action: SB looking into opening a treasurer account with Santander to minimise fees. Long term plan may be to find an account with a new providor.

XI. **Charlestown committee members (NP)**
NP sent an email asking for any members who might be interested to join the committee to get in touch.
Action: So far one person has responded, NP will have a catch up with them.

XII. **2025 Allotment Competition**
Action: LM to draft an email to let members know. Check if previous winner would like to judge Charlestown (from a short list). Check if DT/CM would like to judge Thompson Lane.

4. Member's issues:
None.

5. Reports:
Allotment officers:
Charlestown: 5 on the waiting list for garden plots. No vacant plots. 1 on the small holding waiting list. NP and MW will do a plot inspection in June.
Thompson Lane: 5 on the waiting list.

Treasurer:
SB shared monthly report. £896 May sales from TL and CT huts.

Secretary:
Nothing to report.

Health and Safety:
MW and NP – RW to update on website.

Show 2025:
Schedule on track. Couple more adverts from sponsors still to come. Judges all confirmed. Schedule to print end of June. Sponsorship reminder to be sent out.

Membership Secretary:
Nothing to report.

6. Any other business:

I. **Environment committee meeting (RN)**
RN attended the Town Council Environment Committee Meeting. LM report was well received (report included at the end of the minutes). BTC offered their help/support to BHS, get in touch in future if required.

II. **School visit at TL site (RN)**
4th July 10am.

Date of the next meeting is 7pm Monday 14th July at The Bull's Head, Baildon.

Baildon Horticultural Society
Report for the Environmental Meeting June 2025

The waiting list for allotments was quite small at the beginning of the year but is beginning to creep up now at both sites.

It has been a particularly dry spring and newly planted vegetables have needed more water than necessary. We are not looking forward to receiving our water bill !

We had a new metal fence built at the rear of the allotments in the Spring. A working party was arranged in advance of this and several of our hard working plot owners got together and cleared the site. In early May we arranged for a company to take away all the scrap metal from the old fence plus other bits of metal which had accumulated over the years. Unfortunately, the skip would not go up our drive so another working party was arranged to transport it all to the bottom of the drive and load the skip. Now that the vegetation is growing in the woods, the allotments feel much more secure and private.

We are having regular visits to Thompson Lane from groups of children from Baildon Glen Primary School who we hope will be our gardeners of the future. These visits are proving to be very successful and volunteers from our members have shown them round their various plots. They have even been taking seasonal produce back to school with them and cooking with it. The children have been particularly interested in the wildlife ponds and the chickens.

We are currently looking for more committee members from the Charlestown site to join us.

Our annual Horticultural Show will take place on Sunday 31 August and we are all looking forward to a successful day.

Louise Mallinson
Vice Chair
Baildon Horticultural Society