# Baildon Horticultural Society
# Minutes of the meeting dated 13th October 2025
# The Bull's Head

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

## 1. Apologies for absence:

Dale Holgate (DH), Mike Webster (MW)

## 2. Chairs opening remarks:

NP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 3. Actions from previous meetings:

**I. Bank account (SB)**

The current account with Metro Bank is now open. SB and CB have debit cards and are signatories. The account has a charge or £3 per month, this includes up to 200 transactions.

To pay in cash at the Post Office (nominated branch Shipley) there is a charge of 1% for every £100 deposited. There is no charge to pay in cash at a Metro Bank branch.

SB will start using the new account from the beginning of November. The savings account will remain with Santander. There are no charges for the savings account with Santander and the interest rate is better than anything Metro Bank currently offer.

BHS members to be given details of the new bank account when rent reminders are sent out. We would encourage people to pay by bank transfer to keep cash deposits to a minimum. For security and safety we would like to avoid having large amounts of cash to pay into the bank.

**Action:** Discuss CT shop banking with Clive (SB)
Update bank details on rent letters (LM/CM)
Login to banking app (CB)

**II. New committee members from Charlestown (NP)**

Steve is running the shop with help from Clive.
DH has offered to take on the role of Health & Safety Committee Member – thank you Dale.
No new committee members yet.

**III. Raising awareness of the sales huts within the community (All)**

Email to members – is there anything not currently stocked they would like to see in the sales huts? Potential of one evening per week opening through the growing

season. TL poster for outside the hut. Spring email detailing the products and prices. Price comparisons to local competitors.
**Action:** Stock list and prices to RW so the website can be updated.

**IV. Charlestown Actions (NP)**
Plot checks have been done and one improvement letter issued. There are four other plots which may need to be issued with improvement letters. CM and NP will keep an eye on the work being done on the plots in the coming weeks.

Leaf mould bins have been removed.

The wood chip pile will remain where it is.

Scrap metal has been collected.

**V. Beavers Group discovery session (CB)**
**Action:** To organise 2 sessions for 2026.

**VI. Stock takes on both shops (LM/NP)**
**Action:** TL done. NP to complete CT by the end of October.

## 4. Member's issues:
All agreed that plot 17S at CT can be split into 2 plots. They will both be small plots. CM has updated the database and NP has confirmed with the plot holders.

## 5. Reports:
**Allotment officers:**
**Charlestown:** 6 on the garden plot waiting list. 3 on waiting list for a small holding plot. One plot has been let recently. No vacant plots. Most people are getting on with putting plots to bed for winter. There are still a few plots that need attention, wait and see what progress is made over the coming weeks.
**Thompson Lane:** 2 on the waiting list, no vacant plots.

**Treasurer:**
SB shared monthly report. £196 September sales from TL and CT huts. The BHS bank accounts are healthy.
Show income, expenditure and analysis has been completed. The profit from the 2025 Show is £1567.70. Congratulations to the team and a massive thank you to everyone who helped to make the show happen.

**Secretary:**
Nothing to report.

**Health and Safety:**
Nothing to report.

**Show 2025:**
2025 actions complete.

**Membership Secretary:**
Nothing to report.

## 6. Any other business:

I. **Red Beck Allotments Open Day Visit (LM)**
As part of National Allotment Open Day.

The allotments are managed by Helen Mawson, Deputy Clerk at Shipley Town Council. They have three sites: Red Beck, Carlton Avenue with Hirst Lane and Caroline Street, Saltaire. (Northcliffe is run by Northcliffe Allotments Soc).

They charge £51 per annum plus £22 for water. Going up to £53 in line with inflation. They do concessions for people on pension credit, disability benefit and unemployment benefit.

To apply for an allotment at one of the Shipley sites, you need to have a Shipley address to go on List A. They do have List B for people outside of the BD18 area which they only go to if nobody else on List A.

**Bradford**

The cost of an allotment plot is £107.06 per year, with an additional water charge of £28.78 where appropriate.
A concessionary rate of £53.53 is available, with an additional water charge of £28.78 where appropriate.

**Use of Weedkillers**

It's written into Shipley's tenancy agreements that they will not use weedkillers, particularly Glyphosate. Also that hazardous chemicals are locked away.

**Plot Inspections**

Shipley do one plot inspection a year with Helen Mawson, Deputy Town Clerk and Site Representatives. One or two from each site.

**Waiting Lists**

Short at Red Beck (around 40 plots). Up to six years at Caroline Street, Saltaire. Probably because of all the houses in Saltaire with no gardens and being a desirable location.

One idea which I thought was good was that rather than letting people have a neglected plot rent-free for the first year (as we have often done if it's in a bad state) they charge for the first year, then let them have it free the second year as an incentive, providing they've done some work on it. This seems to work very well.

**II. BHS Show – amendment to Amateur Rule (CB/DT/All**

Current rule:
**Exhibitors in all classes must be amateur.**
*Amateur – A person who, not being a professional either with or without paid or unpaid assistance but not employing a full-time gardener, maintains a garden or grows plants, flowers, fruit or vegetables for pleasure and enjoyment and not for his/her livelihood.*

Committee agreed that the rule be updated to:
**Exhibitors in all classes must be amateur.**
*Amateur – For the purposes of this show, an amateur is a person who pursues horticulture, handicrafts, cookery/baking, or flower arranging as a hobby and not as their principal means of livelihood. Exhibitors who receive payment for teaching, demonstrating, or undertaking commissions in these skills on a professional basis are not considered amateurs.*
**Action**: RW is going to update this in the draft for next years schedule.

**III. AGM**
Monday 8th December
Baildon Golf Club
**Action:** NP to book golf club. RW to update website and produce a poster once the date/venue is confirmed.

**IV. Membership databases (CB)**
Master versions to be kept on Dropbox and those versions to be kept updated.
Charlestown, Thompson Lane and Non plot members.
**Action:** CB to share link to folder on Dropbox.

**V. Environment Committee Meeting (RN)**
**Action:** RN will attend the meeting on Thursday 13th November.

## Date of the next meeting is 7pm Monday 10th November at The Bull's Head, Baildon.