Baildon Horticultural Society
Minutes of the meeting dated 12th January 2026
The Bull's Head

PRESENT: Neal Parry (NP), Mike Webster (MW), Robin Weedon (RW), Louise Mallinson (LM), Mandy Glover (MG) and Claire Bray (CB).

1. Apologies for absence:

Sharon Burrows (SB), Richard Nottidge (RN), Dale Holgate (DH)

2. Chairs opening remarks:

NP welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2026. NP welcomed Mandy Glover to her first committee meeting. Mandy volunteered to join the committee at the 2025 AGM meeting as a general committee member.

3. Actions from previous meetings:

I. **Beavers Group discovery sessions (CB)**
Action: To organise 2 sessions for Spring 2026. Call for volunteers to help with these sessions. Get in touch with group leader to confirm attendance numbers.

II. **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 get in touch with CM.

III. **Raising the profile of the allotments and shops in the local community (ALL)**
There was a concern about short waiting lists and vacant plots. Since CM advertised on Social Media potential plot holders have come forward and we shouldn't have any vacant plots. Matter complete.

4. Member's issues:

I. Baildon Town Council received a report that there is a pig being kept at Charlestown Allotments. BTC wanted to ensure the committee is aware of this and that all requirements are being met as per our Management Agreement.

8.4 Animals and livestock are permitted on the Smallholders plots, designated for livestock (Section 61 Smallholders and Allotments Act 1908) The type and maximum number of animals shall be determined by the Society and through size of plot, with an emphasis where possible on the use of rare breeds.

NP has responded to BTC to confirm that there is an elderly pig at the Charlestown site who is kept as a pet. All documentation is in order and the pig is being kept at the site legally.

II. A neighbour to the Charlestown Allotment site has requested permission to prune a cherry tree to allow more light to their property. It has been agreed they can prune the tree from their property, access to the Charlestown site has not been granted. Committee members agreed with this. NP has responded to the neighbour with an update on this decision. Matter to be monitored.

5. Reports:

Allotment officers:
Charlestown: 2 on the garden plot waiting list. 2 on waiting list for a small holding plot.
Thompson Lane: 3 on the waiting list.

Treasurer:
SB assured us bank accounts are healthy heading into the New Year. CB monitoring rent payments while SB is on holiday.

Secretary:
Nothing to report.

Health and Safety:
Nothing to report.

Show 2025:
Show secretary vacancy.

Membership Secretary:
Nothing to report.

6. Any other business:

I. **From AGM: BHS Show 2026 (LM)**
Show secretary vacancy. Dawn has supplied a detailed action plan outlining show preparation schedule. The aim is to have a working party / show committee to help with organisation of the 2026 show.
Action: LM to send email request for volunteers.

II. **From AGM: Rule updates following AGM (LM/NP/RW)**
Action: LM will share updated document to go through. Once agreed the website will be updated.

III. **From AGM: Publish BHS Accounts (NP)**
It was suggested that BHS are either a Community Benefit Society or a Cooperative Society. Both of which would be required to be registered with the FCA and would publish accounts. We identify as being an Unincorporated Allotment Association and are registered as such with the HMRC. To our knowledge BHS have never published accounts on our website and there is not a requirement for us to do so.
Action: NP will get in touch with John Turner to discuss this matter.

IV. **From AGM: Management Agreement amendments (NP/RN/LM)**
During the meeting Cllr John Turner suggested that amendments could be made to our Management Agreement. NP, RN and LM are going to work on this. NP has delayed the signing of the Management Agreement to allow time for the amendments to be agreed by BTC and BHS.

V. **Rent payments 2026 (SB/CB)**
Action: Continue to log these weekly. Update CM and LM.

VI. **Insurance (LM/CB)**
Thank you to Ian Helyar for helping with this renewal. Payment made. This is complete for another year.

VII. **Website updates (RW)**
Shop stock and prices updated, blog test done and will be shared with members soon, draft AGM minutes to be uploaded when ready, rules to be updated when ready.

VIII. **2026 RHS Trip (CB)**
Action: To start planning.

IX. **BHS President**
Chris Dearnley has very kindly agreed to be our President. LM proposed this at the committee meeting, NP seconded and everyone on the committee agreed. Thank you Chris!

X. **Skips**
2 per site this year. If there is a requirement for more we can check the budget later in the year.

XI. **2026 Membership Cards (RW)**
These will be collected from printers w/c 19th

XII. **Stock in the Shops (NP/MW)**
NP is placing an order.

XIII. **TL Front Fence (LM/MW)**
Following a site visit, BTC are getting quotes for this work.

Date of the next meeting is 7pm Monday 9th February at The Bull's Head, Baildon.