



# Holgate Allotment Association Annual General Meeting

7th April 2026

York Railway Bowls and Social Club, Ashton Lane, Holgate, York YO24 4HX

## **Minutes**

**Welcome and Apologies:** Apologies were received from Jen, Jen C and Jan C, Ruth J, Laura M, Gavin H, Phil C, Claire M,

**In attendance:** Helen B (Site Sec), Sarah H (Treasurer), Paul G (resigning Chair), Chris B, Toni B, Cat B, Mitch B, Denise M, Paul B, Ali B, Sue E, George L, Matthew I, Paul A, Oliver W.

**Reflections from the last 12 months:** Helen provided information about our collective achievements over the last 12 months including:

- Maintenance & Improvements
  - GoodGym sessions over winter
  - Woodchip and manure provided to allotmentees
  - Night garden and starter beds developed
  - Carriage garden well maintained
  - Box hedge replaced
  - Dangerous trees removed
  - Asbestos removed
  - New plot holders welcomed
  - Social events well attended
  - A large plot overhauled and ready to let
  - WhatsApp group established and growing

Thank you to Helen and everyone else involved!

- Status of plots
  - There are a small number of plots vacant with the waiting list still sitting at around 200 people.
  - Site inspections will begin again in May.

### **Finances – key points:**

Our finances are stable although we did notice a reduction in income last year as we were unable to attend the West Bank Park fair which normally nets around £300. Financial headlines:

- Income April 2025 – end of March 2026: **£1628.47**  
(includes balance carried forward from previous year + profit from manure + summer celebration).
- Outgoings April 2025 – end of March 2026: **£864.51**  
(plants, lawnmower + cash for summer celebration + manure)
- Remaining: **£763.96 + £50 held in cash**

### **The role of HAA committee:**

Joint chairs Bob and Paul have now stepped down from the role. Sarah H thanked them for their work.

We discussed the future role of the HAA committee including whether we need a formal Chair. There was interest from a number of people at the AGM in becoming committee members, but no-one present put themselves forward for the role of chair.

We agreed to widen the committee and recruit additional members. Sarah will organise a committee meeting on the second weekend of May to formally recruit new members and to further consider the future structure of HAA. Additionally, Paul B, Phil and Oliver agreed to be committee members.

## **Future events / activities:**

- Chris will resume the fortnightly Saturday sessions in the Carriage Garden from May – thank you Chris! These can also be used to swap plants etc. a couple of times a year.
- Sarah will contact the organisers of West Bank Park Fair to explore whether we can have a stall there this year.
- Suggestions for activities included:
  - Skill share: Paul G to support a skill share event in May
  - Apple pressing: Helen to find two dates for this late summer / autumn
  - Manure provision: To be organised for Autumn
  - Summer solstice event: To be discussed at the next Committee meeting
  - Allotment talk: Toni B to provide in Autumn.
  - A fun fruit / veg competition: To consider at the next Committee meeting
- Additional ideas can be considered throughout the year and plot holders are encouraged to give their ideas / help organise activities. Further discussions and plans can be formed at our next committee meeting in May.

## **AOB:**

- Phil flagged the WhatsApp group which is a great source of communication. He will provide a poster with barcode for the notice board to encourage sign-up.
- Sarah will apply for ward funding to replace the broken notice board. Alternative funding could come from a crowd funder.
- We discussed whether a skip could be hired to help clear waste. Problems with hiring a skip include that it would become full almost immediately and the cost of organising this.