



CAPEL ST MARY ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Affiliated to R.H.S & NAS
President Charles Heath
www.capelallotments.co.uk

Capel St Mary Allotments Association Annual General Meeting - Sunday 19 April 2026

37 people attended the meeting

Steve Baker welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending and also those who had attended the Work In to ensure the site continues to look in such a great condition.

Steve mentioned there had been many achievements over his first year including the fitting of the new polytunnel cover, thanks to the Parish Council who had paid for the cover and thanked them for their support.

He also thanked the Committee and all the volunteers who help on site during the course of the year.

The format of this AGM follows that of previous years. The Notice of AGM and audited accounts has been sent out. Please raise any questions you may have under item 5 on the agenda or under general discussion item 8

Steve Baker then asked our President, Charles Heath to chair the AGM for us this afternoon:

1. President's Address

Charles thanked everyone for attending the AGM and the Work In and commented on the great turnout which had led to lots of jobs being completed on site.

Charles brought along the plaque he was presented with last year after stepping down after 39 years as Chairman to show to all the members and thanked everyone for this and the voucher and whisky he received as gifts of appreciation.

2. Minutes of 2025 AGM

The minutes were displayed on the Hut notice board and circulated by email.
It was proposed to adopt them as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposer	Martyn Dowsett	Seconder	Marc Ruse
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Neil Bateman asked for an amendment to be made to the 2025 Minutes to show that he abstained from the vote regarding the Auditor. This to be actioned.

The Minutes were therefore passed with this amendment.

3. Matters Arising

- There were no matters arising to be discussed.

4. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Accounts for 2025

Geoff Cox, Treasurer, produced the report of the accounts and thanked Malcolm Fenn for completing the audit.

A question was raised as to whether the Association was in a positive or negative position based on the Accounts provided which showed some items in red but GC confirmed this was due to his computer and we were definitely in a positive position financially.

Proposer Tara Smith Seconder Steve Baker

The vote was carried unanimously

5. Questions to Executive Officers and Committee Members on their reports. Please see reports in AGM notice, also general discussion under item 8

- The Committee was asked if a new floor could be laid in the small polytunnel and it was agreed this would be considered.

6. Proposals (if any)

- There were no proposals.

7a. Election of Officers, Committee and Auditor

Steve Baker, Chairman, addressed the meeting and explained we had reviewed some of the roles with the title 'Manager' being removed as jobs were now being shared between Committee Members, particularly regarding the site with the creation of a Site Maintenance Team including Martin Leach (plots and tenancies), Dennis Smith (plumbing and electrics), David Armitage and other ploholders (grass, general maintenance) A new What's App Group has been set up for Site Maintenance to coordinate tasks and this is working well therefore reducing the workload overall.

Charles then introduced the Committee to the meeting. All current members have agreed to serve the Capel St Mary Allotments Association in the capacities as shown:

Chairman	Steve Baker	General Secretary	Tara Smith
Treasurer & Membership	Geoff Cox	Hut & Growing Group	Rob Birnie
Site Team	Martin Leech	Seed Scheme	Phil Hickley
	David Armitage		
	Dennis Smith		
Show Secretary	Wendy Russell	IT	Martyn Dowsett
Site Visits	Marc Ruse	Minutes	Angie Armitage

All the above to be Ex-Officio members of the General Committee, and also include Charles Heath

SB read out the names and positions of committee members and asked them to identify themselves. It was proposed to vote them in en bloc

Proposer Philippa Brandon Seconder Christine Swift

The vote was carried unanimously

Malcolm Fenn was proposed as Auditor

Proposer Anna Clayton Seconder Angela Stevenson

The Vote as carried with one abstention from Neil Bateman.

8. General Discussion

- Philippa Brandon commented how good it was to see many new and in particular younger members and Peter (9B) commented on how welcoming everyone had been since he took on his plot.
- The What's App group for plotholders was mentioned and if anyone was not currently on it but would like to be could they let a Committee Member know so they could be added.
- Rob Birnie thanked those who had joined the Growing Group and welcomed any additional volunteers.
- Steve Baker mentioned the Village show and encouraged everyone to have a go and enter something.
- Future Events
 - Picnic on the Plot Saturday 25th July
 - Village Show 5th & 6th September
 - Autumn Work In Sunday 18th October

9. Any Other Business

- Steve Baker talked about Mike Gilson who although he never had a plot had a great affection for Capel St Mary Allotments Association and following his passing had asked for donations to be made to the Association. Any monies received will be used to sponsor a category at the Village Show in his memory. A copy of the order of service for his funeral, which had a picture of the allotments on it, was in the Plotter's Retreat for anyone wishing to see it.
- A thank you was also extended to Eddie Cox for organising the raffle, David Armitage for arranging the drinks and Angie Armitage and the team for the lunch.

The meeting closed at 12.40 pm