Please forward and share with as many plotholders as possible

MONTHLY ROUNDUP

BDAC

Serving Birmingham's Allotments

Birmingham & District Allotment Cooperative 2026 May Issue 13

AGM 2026 *Special Edition*

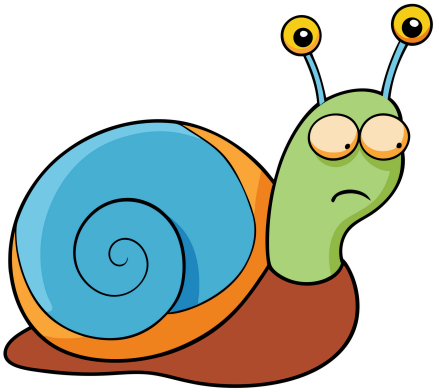
Welcome to the May edition of the Roundup. This edition is concerned only with the Annual Meeting that took place on the 16th May at Bordesley Green Allotments. It is NOT an official record of the meeting.

Finance

Income	**£27,576.55**
Expenditure	**£34,383.86**
Deficit	**£6,807.31**

The largest item of expenditure is the site insurance which BDAC pays and then recovers from the council. Unfortunately the council has got into the habit of failing to reimburse us till way past the agreed date. We have received assurances they are going to remedy this. Sites should not be paying individual costs unless it is for additional activities not covered by the standard agreement. This year's deficit was primarily due to legal consultation fees linked to moving to cooperative format and was funded by the money not spent during Covid. The Executive will continue to look at ways of reducing cost whilst maintaining services.

1157	73	217	2
Enquiries made via 5-click method since introduction	Enquiries and follow-ups made in last 12 months	Advice and complaints in last 12 months	Training sessions in last 12 months



Moving Forward

It really is difficult to believe how slowly certain things are progressing. Top of the list is the move towards Cooperative status. Following request from BCC legal department to change some details, the submission was edited and resubmitted.

The response that it would be dealt with within 15 days has proved to be misleading and which 15 days they allude to remains a mystery. Apparently the FCA like, every other organisation, is over-worked and under-staffed.

Three years ago the Executive requested a complete list of plotholders, including email addresses, so that we could improve communication with tenants. Finally it seems that the council are moving to a new management system that will enable us to access this vital piece of information within the next few months.

The money BDAC receives to oversee the estate and run 6 sites was set in 2014 at £9500 and has failed to increase with inflation or recognise the additional work done by BDAC.. The Executive have submitted a new figure of £39,000 and the council are looking at the figure. This included for training, a council responsibility. However it does seem there possibility of a considerable increase.

The Allotment Consultative Committee, which used to meet quarterly and was an opportunity for BDAC officers to talk directly with the Parks department but then fell into the cracks of local government, is probably going to be reintroduced. So, a platform for constructive dialogue might reappear.

Whilst the papers are reporting the possible sale of allotment land in Birmingham there are tales of sites flourishing, full waiting lists and land previously closed by the council being brought back into cultivation.

At Bordesley Green, 25 years ago land was closed, earmarked for development. Now, with money from the NHS, 15 plots are being brought back into cultivation as apart of a social prescribing initiative. Funding was delayed, but now the project has started; a worker has been employed and the some of land has been reclaimed.
In Kingstanding, Edmonton Road, a small site BDAC control, work has begun returning land separated from them by a road back into allotment plots.
Pembroke Croft, currently neglected by the council and allowed to go wild receives request for plots.
At Chester Road, the smallest site in Birmingham, plotholders have asked the council to allow adjacent land which is uncultivated to be brought into the site but have been told that this is not feasible. Maybe our new council will be more positive!
Do you now of an organisation or scheme that could work with people to bring land back into cultivation? We need to hear from you?

ROOTS TO FRUIT MIDLANDS LTD

LEARNING IS GROWING

Cultivating Great Plants AND People

Roots to Fruits offer courses in many aspects of horticulture

Find out more

Garden Organic | The Heritage Seed Library

The Heritage Seed Library (HSL) maintains the national collection of heritage vegetables and aims to conserve

www.gardenorganic.org.uk

Find out more

Site Competitions

it is not just about winning -
Less about competition more about a campaign ...

- ✅ **Recognising outstanding effort**
- ✅ **Encouraging others**
- ✅ **Sharing good practice**
- ✅ **Working with nature**
- ✅ **Encouraging innovation**
- ✅ **Promoting biodiversity**
- ✅ **Building on tradition**
- ✅ **Enriching the environment**
- ✅ **A step on the journey towards Excellence**
- ✅ **Growing a community**

Find out more

Summer Fairs, etc.

Plan a visit to another site and enjoy a good look round and some festive fun.

Advertise your event on our Facebook group and spread the news of what vibrant places allotment sites are. One of Birmingham's largest sites is holding its Summer Fair on June 20th. Bordesley Green ihas for many years been the home of our AGM & Half-Yearly Meeting

Find more events on Facebook

The Executive

This year Yvonne Brookes and David Reece left the Executive at the AGM. Yvonne will continue to serve the cooperative in a number of site related ways. A number of new people accepted the invitation to play a role on the Executive.

Name	Site/Association
David Read (Chair)	Ward End

Hester Blewitt (Secretary)	Ward End
Steve Wise (Treasurer)	Beaumont Road
Yvonne Brookes	Pereira Rd
Cheryl Butler	Thornbridge
Clive Fenn	Birches Green
Mohammed Ibrahim	Ward End
Amina Daham	Bordesley Green
Ash Hussain	Manor House Lane
Mark Jackson	Billesley
Len Tubbs	The Brambles
Angus Young	Eastern Road
Mark Linley	Walkers Heath

If you would like to see what is involved you can come along to any Exec' meeting and observe.

Join Us On Facebook

Birmingham & District Allotments Cooperative
146 Nechells Park Road,Birmingham, B7 5PH
Tel: 07861 144674

This email was sent to {{contact.EMAIL}}

Unsubscribe

Sent with Brevo