



Rooting for Andover Trustee Report for the Period to April 30th 2025

Objectives Governance and Structure.

Rooting for Andover supports allotments and community gardens in the Test Valley area.

We hold regular volunteer days at our main garden at Poppy Park next to the Augusta Park Community centre. Throughout the year, we hold a variety of community events in the garden which are advertised on social media. We are open to all and everyone is welcome.

We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation set up using the Charity Commission's Foundation Governing document. We have three trustees and appointments of trustees follows the model process set out in our governing document. Our charitable aims are described in the same document and can be viewed on the Charity Commission site. Broadly we aim to provide, for public benefit, facilities for community gardens for all members of the community in the Test Valley. We also aim to provide opportunities for learning about sustainable horticulture and community gardening. We provide a great place for people to meet, to enjoy green spaces and to enhance their knowledge and understanding of all aspects of horticulture as well as contributing free surplus food to those in the local community who might need it. The trustees are fully aware and always seek to comply with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

This third report covers the period from 1st May 2024-30th April 2025.

Achievements

Overview

This period proved to be a highly successful and active year for the community garden.

Community Events and Engagement

The garden hosted a wide range of well-attended events, attracting strong community participation throughout the year.

The Spring Garden Fair in May welcomed over 100 visitors and resulted in a complete sell-out of many plant varieties that volunteers had carefully grown and potted. A children's wildlife photography competition held during the summer attracted high-quality entries and was very well received.

Additional events included the popular Easter Bunny Hunt, summer holiday sessions, and a Halloween celebration. All were exceptionally well supported, despite periods of inclement weather.

Environmental Education

Environmental education remained central to the garden's work. Two People's Planet workshops enabled community members to share their views on environmental and climate issues, with outcomes fed back to regional organisations.

Regular free learning sessions for children were delivered during school holidays. These sessions were well attended and greatly appreciated by both children and parents.

A garden birdwatch recorded a variety of bird species, while wildlife cameras captured fox activity, highlighting the site's increasing biodiversity.

Awards and Recognition

A significant proportion of the year was devoted to preparing for South & South East in Bloom. This involved many hours of volunteer effort, including planting, ongoing maintenance, infrastructure improvements, and presentation of the site. We were delighted to achieve a Level 5 'Outstanding' in the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' category and also a silver gilt for the 'Our Community' category.

Additionally, a comprehensive and high-quality entry was entered into the desktop *Environmental Challenge* category. This involved preparing a report to cover how the community garden was dealing with environmental issues such as using appropriate planting for the climate, attracting wildlife, composting and water collection. We received a silver for our efforts.

Garden Development and Maintenance

Volunteers undertook extensive physical improvements throughout the year, including the installation of bug boxes, information boards, rubbing plaques, and wildlife-friendly dead hedges. Paths were extended and improved, and development work was carried out in a neighbouring wildlife area. The bog garden was further enhanced, and the polytunnel was replaced with a much sturdier cover.

Winter preparations included protecting vulnerable plants, planting over 1,000 spring bulbs and native wildflowers, and adding donated climbing roses to provide long-lasting colour and scent.

Volunteers and community impact

The garden continued to host regular weekly gardening and social sessions, welcoming people of all ages and abilities. Above all, the trustees acknowledge the exceptional contribution of the many volunteers who supported planting, maintenance, events, education, and community outreach throughout the year as well and extended such a warm welcome to the countless families and individuals who come to the garden to simply enjoy it.

We would also like to thank our funders during this year: Test Valley Borough Council (Councillor Grant), the National Garden Scheme, and Action Hampshire.

The Charity's events were also advertised on our website which is

currently <https://rootingforandover.org.uk>

and on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/377104459891872>

Finance

We normally strive to achieve around 6 months reserves which the trustees feel is a safe margin given our annual costs. Most of the funding we receive is related to project work but we aim to have between £2500 - £3500 in reserves which is our best current estimate of our 6 month running costs. At the end of the financial year, the charity was in a strong financial position and is a going concern. Administrative information Rooting For Andover ((Charity Registration 1200827) has three Trustees at present; Mr Michael Parker (Chair), Mrs Vicki Cunningham (Secretary) and Mrs Maureen Treadwell (Treasurer). The postal address for correspondence is as follows: 21 Livia Close SP10 5QR. The contact email for the charity is info@rootingforandover.org.uk



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/05/2024	To	Period end date 30/04/2025
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants restricted	-	3,565	-	3,565	6,600
Grants unrestricted	-	-	-	-	-
Plant sales/fundraising	885	-	-	885	397
Donations	1,017	-	-	1,017	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,902	3,565	-	5,467	6,997
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,902	3,565	-	5,467	6,997
A3 Payments					
Events/ charitable activities (restricted)	-	3,789	-	3,789	933
Garden sundries restricted	-	-	-	-	5,499
insurance	109	-	-	109	89
admin	3	-	-	3	257
Garden/charitable activities unrestricted	2,768	-	-	2,768	889
Fundraising	19	-	-	19	-
Rounding error adjustment	1	-	-	1	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,900	3,789	-	6,689	7,667
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Gtech strimmer	135	-	-	135	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	135	-	-	135	-
Total payments	3,035	3,789	-	6,824	7,667
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,133	- 224	-	- 1,357	680
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	3,111	1,312	-	4,423	5,103
Cash funds this year end	1,978	1,088	-	3,066	4,423

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	At bank	1,978	1,088	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,978	1,088	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	sheds	Charity fund	-	-
	Polytunnel	A/A	-	-
	Mower	A/A	-	-
	Strimmers	A/A	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	#VALUE!	M Treadwell	08/01/2026	