

WEST JESMOND ALLOTMENTS CIO (charity no. 1205501)

Trustee Annual Report for West Jesmond Allotments CIO

(year ending 30 September 2025)

1. Introduction

Our CIO was registered on 30 September 2023. It had eight Trustees, two of whom stepped down during the year (Brian Barnes and Francis Mogg). We also welcomed John Waddell as a new Trustee. The Trustees were also the Management Committee of West Jesmond Allotments Association (WJAA). WJAA was set up in 1917 and has run an allotment site on the Town Moor of Newcastle upon Tyne since then. The Trustees decided not to set in operation the CIO immediately pending the signing of a new lease for our site and various administrative needs (e.g. a new bank account). Since October 2024 the CIO and Association have operated in parallel as the lease by which we hold the site has still not been signed and the successor rights in title rest with the Association until the new lease is signed by the CIO.

2. Object

The object of the CIO is to benefit the residents of Newcastle upon Tyne without distinction of gender, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by providing allotment gardens in the interests of social welfare for recreational leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the lives of all residents. We do this by providing opportunities for allotment holders to take joint action for common benefit and enjoy the benefits and pleasures of gardening, as well as advancing education and understanding relating to the benefits of gardening.

3. Year under review

3.1 Activities

All 114 plots on our allotment site were fully occupied from October 2024 to September 2025. In the course of the year, 15 plots changed hands and we welcomed 22 new members. Membership is open to all in the Newcastle area and plots are allocated in chronological turn from our waiting list.

During the year we held an open day for the public as part of the Jesmond Community Festival, including a guided tour of the site. Several social events were also organised for members, such as a Big Lunch, a summer and end-of-season BBQ and a fire on Bonfire Night.

3.2 Financial review

The CIO is subject to scrutiny by an independent auditor and following approval of our year-end accounts, our financial results can be summarised as outlined in the following sections. For further details, please see the statements in Appendix 1.

In the year from October 2024 to September 2025, the organisation received a total income of £8,386, derived mainly from membership fees (£4,601), donations (£247) and takings from sales on our Open Day (£439). No grants were applied for or received.

Outgoings came to a total £7,403 and we saw our costs for water, insurance and minor works go up. However, with no funds needed for major works, including as required by our lease with the Freeman of Newcastle, the year ended with a surplus of £983. This was added to our major works funds, which we maintain and build up to ensure resilience and cover large cost items such as the replacement of equipment and on-site structures, including fences.

Newcastle upon Tyne, 10 July 2026,

The Trustees

G. Herzmark
Trustee / Chair

S.C. Steele
Trustee / Vice Chair

J. Hargreaves
Trustee / Membership Secretary

J. Frehen
Trustee / Treasurer

R. Taylor
Trustee

C. Ingram
Trustee

J. Waddell
Trustee

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Appendix 1 – Financial statements

WEST JESMOND ALLOTMENTS CIO		
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 30th September 2025		
	2023/2024	2024/2025
Income -		
rents & fees		4601
incomings & keys		445
use of hoses		984
sale of manure & woodchip		1568
seed order discount		102
open day / plant stall		439
miscellaneous income & donations		247
		8386
less:		
Expenditure -		
rent for site		1368
water		1244
NSALG - affiliation fee & insurance		1029
manure, straw & woodchip for resale		1010
minor works & repairs		1175
mowers & equipment -		
new equipment		230
servicing		254
fuel		117
control of pests		173
locks & keys		46
secretarial & miscellaneous		828
		7473
surplus / deficit (-) for year		913
Balance Sheet as at 30th September:		
		at 30/9/25
Net Current Assets -		
Lloyds Treasurer Account	2441	5241
Net Current Liabilities		
Less: rent and seed orders received in advance	-2441	5241
		-3509
	0	1732
Net equity		1732
Represented By -		
General Fund -		
balance brought forward	0	0
surplus for year	0	913
t/f to Major Works Reserve Fund		-913
balance carried forward	8	0
Major Works Reserve Fund -		
balance brought forward		913
contributions in year		820
t/f from General Fund		0
grants received		0
less costs incurred		
balance carried forward		1732
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