



**BRIDGE OF ALLAN**  
**ALLOTMENT**  
**ASSOCIATION**

**Annual Report  
and  
Financial Statements**

**For the period  
4 January 2024 to 31 January 2025**

**(Scottish Charity Number: SCO53038)**

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT: PERIOD 4 JANUARY 2024 TO 31 JANUARY 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their report and financial statements together with the independent examiner's report for the period 4 January 2024 to 31 January 2025.

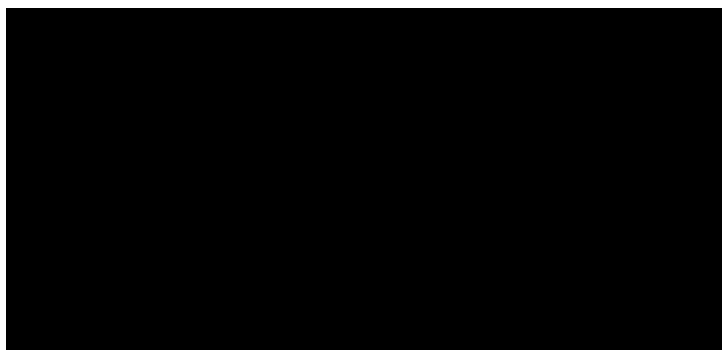
### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name: Bridge of Allan Allotment Association

Charity Number: SCO53038

Principle Address:

Trustees:



There were no other appointments or resignations in the period 4 January 2024 to 31 January 2025.

Bank: Cooperative Bank

Independent Examiner:



### STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Bridge of Allan Allotment Association is a one tier Scottish Charitable Organisation (SCIO) registered with OSCR on 6 January 2024 and is governed by its constitution which was adopted on 4 December 2023.

#### Appointment of Trustees

The charity governance and strategic direction is overseen by a committee consisting of 7 members, 4 of whom are Trustees of the Charity, and an additional Trustee who is not a member of the committee.

The Committee is elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) which is held in March and in line with our constitution we can have up to nine committee members.

#### Aims and Commitments

The aims of the association are to encourage residents from Bridge of Allan and the surrounding area to participate in and promote community food growing.

Provide an opportunity for local youngsters to actively participate in horticultural activities.

The advancement and protection of environmental improvement through the creation of a community orchard highlighting the benefits of gardening, growing food, nature conservation and other outdoor related activities, to all ages and abilities of individuals living in the Stirling Council area.

Engage and where possible co-operate with other organisations to further the interests of allotment holders and / or community leisure gardeners.

#### The Association is committed to:

Supporting a culture of equality and respect for all involved in looking after the site, working the allotment plots or maintaining the community orchard space.

Promote and encourage environmental responsibility and ecologically sustainable practices wherever possible in caring for the site.

Maintain and improve the site and facilities as may be required.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This is our first full period as the Bridge of Allan Allotment Association after being granted charitable status in January 2024, a lot has happened in the 12 months since.

### Lease Negotiations

There have been lengthy communications/negotiations with Stirling Council to draw up and issue the lease for the site. Unfortunately, this has still not been concluded. It is hoped that the lease will be issued in the financial year to 31 January 2026.

The Association have sought support from Local [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who wrote to the council on our behalf. Negotiations are ongoing.

My thanks to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for their persistence and patience during the negotiations and as we head into 2025, we will continue to press for the lease to be finalised and signed.

### Community Orchard

In February 2024 we received a grant from Forth Environment Link for £569.00 for the formation of the community orchard.

[REDACTED] met with [REDACTED] of Scottish Fruit trees, who was appointed as a consultant, for advice on how best to establish the orchard and which fruit trees would be best suited for the site. In March 2024 a tree planting day was organised with the first batch of trees planted with the assistance of the local scout group and members of the local community. The event obtained excellent coverage in the Stirling Observer which helped promote the Association. Thanks to [REDACTED] for all his efforts in getting this project started.

Additional grant funding was received in November 2024 from the Forth Valley & Lothian Youth Local Action Group for the purchase of 34 fruit trees. The next round of tree planting, assisted by pupils from Wallace High School as part of their 'Sprout for Change' project is scheduled for 21 February 2025, weather permitting.

### Plot Allocation

The allocation of vacant plots was completed in May 2024 by the Secretary, [REDACTED]. The Council handed management of the plot allocation to the Association. New plot holders were welcomed to the Association in May 2024 and were introduced to their plots by [REDACTED]. This is a big step forward; it is pleasing that since forming the Association we have been able to fill all the plots on site for the first time in years. We also have a growing waiting list which shows there is a keen interest locally for an allotment plot.

## Grants and Projects

Grant funding was received from Stirling Council Community and Wellbeing Fund for the purchase of a communal greenhouse for the Association plot, allowing all plot holders to have access to greenhouse facilities as not all plots have poly tunnels/greenhouses. This was successfully built and completed in June 2024. A special thanks to [REDACTED] partner Sandy for his expertise during the construction process and to all those involved in the project.

In June 2024 a Butterfly Identification workshop was held at the Community Orchard by Butterfly Conservation.

In September 2024 grant funding was received from Arnold Clark Community Fund for the design of an Association logo and two signs for the main gate and Community Orchard. Local design company, Arken Creative, were appointed to design and produce the signs. Both signs have been produced with an unveiling scheduled for late summer, early autumn 2025.

We welcomed two new members to the committee, [REDACTED] as the new Allotment Site Manager and [REDACTED] to provide advice and support with our charity governance and assist with grant applications and membership funding.

I would like to end by thanking all members of the committee for their time and efforts in establishing the association and looking forward to 2025 we will continue to work towards finalising the lease negotiations with the council. Securing the lease for the site will allow us to seek further funding from grant bodies and funding through plot holder subscription fees, allowing further development and maintenance of the site.

I am confident there is a lot to look forward to and I am sure the Association will continue to grow and develop in the years ahead.

[REDACTED]

Chair, Bridge of Allan Allotment Association

## **RESERVES POLICY**

This is the first full financial period for the association. The committee has the aim of having one year's expected rental income available as unrestricted funds. Due to the delay in the conclusion of a lease with Stirling Council the association has been unable to charge its members a rental fee. This should be resolved in the coming financial year and assist the association in reaching its reserves target.

### **Financial Review**

#### **Overview**

Total receipts for the period were **£5,515.29** (2023: £nil) total payments for the period was **£2,908.40** (2023: £nil). The charity had a surplus of **£2,606.49** (2023: £nil).

#### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bridge of Allan Allotment Association**

I reported on the accounts of the charity for period end 31 January 2025, set out in the following pages.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

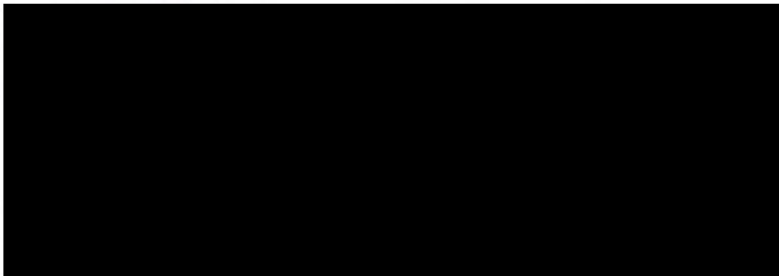
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

During the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulation have not been met, or
  - to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- 

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD TO 31 JANUARY 2025**

Receipts	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
		£	£	£
Donations	5	0.40	-	<b>0.40</b>
Grants	6	-	5514.89	<b>5,514.89</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>0.40</b>	<b>5514.89</b>	<b>5,515.29</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Professional Fees	8	-	569.00	<b>569.00</b>
Plants & Trees	8	-	850.40	<b>850.40</b>
<b>Payments related directly to charitable activities</b>			<b>1,419.40</b>	<b>1,419.40</b>
Purchase of fixed assets	8	-	1,489.00	1,489.00
<b>Total payments</b>			<b>2,908.40</b>	<b>2,908.40</b>
<b>Net receipts</b>		0.40	2,606.49	2,606.89
Transfers to / (from) funds		(0.40)	0.40	-
<b>Surplus for the period</b>		-	<b>2,606.49</b>	<b>2,606.49</b>

**STATEMENT OF BALANCES AS OF 31 JANUARY 2025**

Funds Reconciliation	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
		£	£	£
Balance as at 4 January 2024		-	-	-
Surplus for the period		-	2,606.49	<b>2,606.49</b>
<b>Balance as at 31 January 2025</b>		-	2,606.49	<b>2,606.49</b>

Bank & Cash Balance	2025
	£
Cash at Bank	2,606.49
Cash in Hand	-
<b>Total bank and cash</b>	<b>2,606.49</b>



These accounts were approved by the Trustees on the 25 February and signed on their behalf by:

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: PERIOD ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

### 1. Basis of Preparation

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts & payments basis in accordance with:

- a) The Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005
- b) The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

### 2. Fund Accounting

- a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objects of the charity.
- b) Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

### 3. Taxation

- a) The charity is not liable to corporation tax or capital gains tax on its charitable activities.
- b) The charity is not registered for VAT; thus, all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.

### 4. Transactions with trustees and related parties

- a) No remuneration was paid to trustees during the accounting period.
- b) No travelling expenses were paid to trustees during the accounting period.
- c) Trustees do not have indemnity insurance.

### 5. Donations. A donation of £0.40 was provided to the charity.

### 6. Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
	£	£	£
Forth Environment Link	-	569.00	<b>569.00</b>
Stirling Council Community and Wellbeing	-	1,489.00	<b>1489.00</b>
Arnold Clark Community Fund	-	1,000.00	<b>1000.00</b>
Forth Valley & Lomond Youth Local Action Group	-	1,710.49	<b>1,710.49</b>
Stirling Council Community and Wellbeing		746.00	<b>746.00</b>
Total grant income	-	<b>5,514.49</b>	<b>5,514.49</b>

## 7. Cost of Charitable Activities.

During the period £569.40 was incurred for professional fees in establishing a fruit tree orchard. A further £850.40 of fruit trees were purchased.

## 8. Breakdown of unrestricted funds.

During the period to 31 January 2025 the association received a donation of £0.40. This was transferred to the Forth Valley & Lomond Youth Local Action Group restricted fund (see note 9). The closing unrestricted funds at 31 January 2025 are £Nil.

## 9. Breakdown of restricted funds

	Forth Environment Link Grant	Stirling Council Community and Wellbeing	Arnold Clark Community Fund	Forth Valley & Lomond Youth Local Action Group	Stirling Council Community and Wellbeing	Total restricted funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants	569.00	1,489.00	1,000.00	1,710.49	746.00	5,514.49
Total Receipts	569.00	1,489.00	1,000.00	1,710.49	746.00	5,514.49
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	(569.40)	-	-	(850.00)	-	(1,449.40)
Purchase of fixed assets	-	(1,489.00)	-	-	-	(1,489.00)
Total payments	(569.40)	(1,489.00)	-	(850.00)	-	(2,908.40)
Net receipts	-	-	1,000.00		746.00	2,606.09
Transfer to / (from) funds	0.40	-	-	-	-	0.40
Surplus for period	-	-	1,000.00	860.49	746.00	2,606.49

## 10. Purpose of Grants

**Forth Environment Link** - Restricted fund for establishment of a community orchard.

**Stirling Council Community & Wellbeing** – Restricted fund for construction of a communal greenhouse on the allotment site.

**Arnold Clark Community Fund** – Restricted fund for the establishment of signage for the allotment site and community orchard.

**Forth Valley & Lomond Youth Local Action Group** – Restricted fund for tree planting at orchard site.

**Stirling Council Community & Wellbeing** – Restricted fund for the establishment of signage at the allotment site and community orchard.