

Pretoria Road Allotment Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting

Thursday 16th July 2026 - Pretoria Road Allotment Site 6.40pm

Committee Members Present:

Claire Nicholl – Chair (CN)

Doug Blackwell – Secretary (DB)

Mark – Treasurer (M)

Rob Martinique (RM),

Richard Pruett (RP)

Chris Rowell (CR)

Mary Hayward (MH)

Mike Stinchcombe

Derek Howell (DH)

Mia Smart (MSm)

APOLOGIES: Libby Owen (LO)

ITEM 1. Spending for water station repairs

Cost of repairs for water stations is £2200. All agreed to use funds from allotment fundraising account.

DB to coordinate the repairs.

CN and CR to apply to PTC for grant to help support this project.

Concerns expressed over this year's water use and bill. Agreed a long term plan regarding water use is necessary.

ITEM 2. Agenda for AGM

Agreed to follow the same format as previous years. Items added to AOB included Water Charges and Maintenance of Orchard

ITEM 3. Bonfire BBQ coordinator

RP agreed to coordinate this event. Time 6.30 - 8.00

ITEM 4. Plot Updates

Due to ill health, a six week extension was given to a plot holder regarding the condition of their plot - now nearing the end of the 6 weeks.

DB to send letters to all plot holders whose plot needs attention.

DB to remind plot holders in newsletter to remove plants and equipment surrounding water stations in order to help facilitate the maintenance work.

ITEM 5. Cutting of orchard grass

Agreed to continue cutting the grass in the orchard and mulch and leave the cuttings. (No charge for members hiring equipment to help maintenance of the orchards.)

CN and RM to investigate best way to supports the easy maintenance of this area whilst also ensuring that the trees and wildlife are supported in the best way possible.

ITEM 6. Volunteer Saturday

Agreed Saturday 8th August 10am -12pm. DB to put in newsletter.

ITEM 7. Apple Day

CN suggested the society organise a community event to collect apples from the orchard. An apple juicer will be made available for hire - £5 for 24 hours. Coffee and refreshments (apple cake etc) for sale. All agreed. Date 26th September 10am -12pm. CN to coordinate.

ITEM 8. Possible Dates for wreath making event

Saturday 28th November - 10am -12pm

Saturday 5th December family friendly event - 10am -12pm

Thursday 3rd December 7pm - 9pm

Cost £15 Payable in advance - non refundable

ITEM 9. Parking complaint from local neighbours

DB to remind plots holders in newsletter to ...

Park inside the gates. Not on double yellow lines. Not on footpaths. Park respectfully to local residents. Any issues to be reported to SGC.

ITEM 10. Feeding of Foxes

DB to ask plot holders not to feed foxes - in line with advice from South Gloucestershire Council.

ITEM 11. Missing Poles from PTC

DB to ask members to check their plots and return all poles to PTC area of site.

ITEM 12. Servicing of rotator and lawnmower

RP to investigate the cost of servicing 2x rotavators and 2x lawnmowers and feedback at next meeting

ITEM 13. Proposed changes and reformation of allotment accounts

DH reported how he did accounts and recommended they be simplified.

DH and Mark to get together before AGM.

End of July Shop Audit - CN and CR.

A.O.B

Grants - CN and CR to work on applications for PTC and Bristol Water