

Treasurer's Report to the AGM

11th November 2025

I'd like to start by thanking our outgoing Committee Member Andrew, who handed over the reins at the end of last year, having completed six years as Treasurer. He takes a well-deserved break from committee duties but I'm sure he will continue to be a valuable member of the RPA contributing his time and expertise as and when required as well as agreeing to sit on the Management Committee this year. Thank you, Andrew, for all your support in the handover process, it was much appreciated.

You'll all be thrilled to hear that we continue to have a very healthy financial outlook at the RPA despite the uncertain economic picture globally.

The main source of our income as you know is from the annual rental payments and other related income which includes membership fees from new tenants. We collected £5,736.00 from ploholders for rent this year - thank you Martin for collecting and collating all the payments and everyone else for paying so promptly!

Fund raising events this year made £1,492.59 - only made possible by the generosity of people giving up their time to volunteer and the dedication of the Events Team, led by Ruth.

The Seed Store Cafe continues to contribute a massive amount to the site both in terms of finances and community spirit. Anne runs a very tight ship and has selflessly devoted years to promoting and running the cafe, gaining a loyal following of both customers and volunteers. Thank you to each and every one of you for raising £2,209.07 to add to the RPA funds and bringing us all together on Sundays.

We have continued to keep our savings in short term fixed rate accounts which produced interest totalling £941.51 this year too.

The main expenses this year were for site maintenance and insurance costs. The committee's priority is the preservation of the site and we are so fortunate to have a dedicated team of ploholders who maintain the allotments for the community.

We also bought a SumUp system this year which has been widely used by the Events Team with great success. The feedback received suggests that moving with the times and accepting card payments has been welcomed by everyone.

So, I am happy to report that this year we made a surplus of £7,414.45 - an outstanding result mainly due to all the volunteers running the site behind the scenes.

As you can see, we start our next financial year with a balance of over £47,000 and have earmarked some of the funds to address more costly site maintenance. The most immediate item will be repairs to the Seed Store roof which has been leaking for some time. Other potential items for the future include the entrance gates; the lock-up buildings; and future repairs to the tracks. We welcome any suggestions for future project expenditure and invite as many of you as possible to help the site flourish in the coming years.

A final thank you goes to Len Cowking for his role in overseeing the accounts.

Many thanks to everyone for another hugely successful year.