ROSEDALE ROAD & BULL MEADOW ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION (est.1995) **AGM MINUTES - Friday 10th October 2025**	
1	**Present:** C Robertson, B Childs, J Alabaster, B Alabaster, C Cheeseman, S Cheeseman, C Davison, A Davison, T Whiberley, L Brede, J Stephens, K Walsh, S Walsh, A Klecha, S Klecha, J Fielder, M Kennedy, S Carter, P Wootton, K Deex, F Pereira, B Pereira, W McNicholas & his guest (24 total)
2	**Apologies:** J Bishop, M Watts, L Dartnell, S Simmonds, A Collins, S Fraser
3	**Minutes AGM 11th October 2024 agreed**
4 *Constitution para. 18*	**Election of Committee** Committee approved by meeting as standing in current posts. Your committee for October 2025 to October 2026 is Andrew Klecha (Chair), Sharon Walsh (Secretary), Jane Fielder (Treasurer), Sheila Cheeseman (Membership Secretary), Clive Cheeseman, and Julian Stephens.
5 *Constitution para. 5&6*	**Membership/Subscription Rates (Andrew Klecha)** SW reported that at committee's pre-AGM meeting they agreed the following proposal – to increase plot fees by 30p per rod from 1st October 2026, also to increase the membership rate by £1 per year for the next 4 years, so £7 from 01/10/26, £8 from 01/10/2027, £9 from 01/10/2027, £10 from 01/10/2029. Associate membership to stay at £2, to be reviewed for 2026 AGM. The meeting noted that RRBMAA was one of the cheapest, if not the cheapest, allotment association in Thurrock. AK invited the meeting to vote and all members present voted unanimously to accept the proposed plot and membership fee increase.
6 *Constitution para. 26*	**Treasurer's Annual Report (Jane Fielder)** JF presented her finance report - the closing balance at beginning September 2025 was £4946.90, compared with same time in 2024 £5347.29; £400.39 less this year. Anne Turnbull has checked and verified the accounts on 29th September 2025. Higher outgoings this year as tree maintenance work required. Water bill for April to October received for Rosedale Road £683, an increase of over £200; Bull Meadow not yet received. We will need to consider increasing the IBC refill cost to reflect increase in water unit cost. LB asked which trees needed work – AK explained that trees on Thurrock Council ground are maintained by them, so they cover the cost of reducing the cemetery trees at RR and made safe the overhanging tree at BM, the trees that needed reduction/removal and cost RRBMAA were both at RR - the walnut tree in far left hand corner BA end, and a tree overhanging two plot holders allotments. Both needed professional attention and have been reported on at previous general meetings.
7	**Membership Secretary's Annual Report (Sheila Cheeseman)** Several plotholders have left this year. Currently there are 2 on RR and 4 on BM to be let, all half plots 21 on waiting list AD asked if zoned waiting list was still in operation – SC confirmed that was the case with 2 in zone 1, 3 in zone 2, and rest in zone 3. Another member asked if people on the waiting list signed up to just us, or the allotment site nearest their address. SW replied that all initial queries are encouraged to sign up to site nearest their address. MK asked to give a big thank you to Clive R for all his help with his plot this year – the meeting acknowledged this.
8	**Chairman's Report 2025 (Andrew Klecha)** Welcome to our 21st self-managed AGM. I would like to remind you all, that as a self-managed site, virtually everything that happens at our Rosedale or Bull Meadow sites is run or maintained voluntarily. Please try to volunteer or support your site as much as possible, while always being considerate to your plot neighbours. This spring was the complete opposite of last spring. Hot and dry which carried over into summer. In fact, so hot and dry, it was the rare growing season of no potato or tomato blight!

	This year's summer BBQ was back to June, thank you for everyone who turned up for a very enjoyable event. Once again the men won the Boules competition, so we are now just one behind the ladies overall, watch this space next year. We also held a winter & summer tree fruit pruning demonstration which was well attended. Squirrels were actually welcomed onto Rosedale Road site this year, as this time they were young children learning about growing veg and not just eating everyone's sweet corn! Thank you to Alan and everyone else who helped host them. Members come and go each year, but our waiting list remains fairly constant. Please remember how lucky we are to have the opportunity to grow fresh fruit & vegetables for our families and friends. This year's NSALG Open Day was on 16th August and raised the princely sum of £538.30 this goes towards our running costs. Once again this was a new record. Thank you, everyone who contributed with homemade cakes, fruit & veg, preserves & elderflower drinks. It is always a pleasure to meet the local people, and I know most of them look forward to the Open Day. Many of them wishing they could purchase fruit & veg on a more regular basis. It's time to show our appreciation for the site managers & helpers and committee. At the Rosedale Road site, Alan Collins, Clive Robertson, Stuart Simmonds and any other helpers. At Bull Meadow Site, Les Dartnell & myself. In the committee with the secretary Sharon Walsh, Membership secretary Sheila Cheeseman, Treasurer Jane Fielder along with committee members Julian Stephens and Clive Cheeseman. Also, Mark Kennedy for all his work on the RRBM website. All of the above do sterling unpaid work, to keep the sites operating to the Council's approval. This year's <u>Most Improved Plot of the Year Award</u> goes to Stephen Fraser's plot at Bull Meadow. Unfortunately he can't be here tonight to accept his award and prize. Good luck to everyone who has brought along their finest Fruit, Veg & preserves for the competition later. Please remember all those attending get one vote per category class. We hope the winners enjoy the new selection of prizes & trophies Happy Gardening Andrew Klecha Chairman
9	**Items from Members** No items submitted for discussion
10	**Urgent Notices** a) Annual bonfire will be held at RR on Saturday 1st November starting at 5pm, SW will send reminder invite soon b) Water at RR will be turned off after the above event c) Seed order from Kings Seeds catalogue deadline is 31st October, to Jane Fielder d) Bonfire ban is lifted, SW will send Dos and Don'ts of Bonfires email as a reminder to all e) **Next meeting** 7.30 pm on Friday 14th November 2025 at Tyrells Hall WM Club
END OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	

11	**Annual Competition** a) Best up to three grown above ground 8 entries, in reverse order – 5th place Kevin Walsh's Chillis 4th place Tina Whiberley's Tomatoes 4th place Sheila & Clive Cheeseman's Tomatoes 4th place Sharron Carter's Apples 3rd place Jane Fielder's Pumpkins 3rd place Andy Klecha's Sweet Peppers 2nd place Julian Stephens' Cucumbers ***1st place Walter McNicholas' Cauliflower*** b) Best up to three grown below ground 5 entries, in reverse order – 4th place Julian Stephens' Sweet Potatoes 4th place Andy Klecha's Golden Beetroot 3rd place Adrian Davison's Kestrel Potatoes 2nd place Walter McNicholas' Onions ***1st place Kevin Walsh's Elephant Garlic*** c) Best conserve, jam, chutney, relish, pickle made from home-grown or plot-grown produce 7 entries, in reverse order – 5th place Andy Klecha's Cucumber Relish 4th place Jane Fielder's Greengage Jam 4th place Tina Whiberley's Pickled Onions 3rd place Sharon Walsh's Green Tomato & Apple Chutney 2nd place Cherry Davison Fig Jam 2nd place Sue Klecha's Dessert Wine ***1st place Tina Whiberley's Chilli Tomato Jam*** Photos of winners were taken and will be displayed at each site and on Facebook. Thank you to all who entered!
	Raffle Thank you to Sheila and Clive Cheeseman for raising £18.50 in tonight's raffle