



BAACIO Newsletter – April 2026

To reduce communication to members and associate members, we will issue quarterly newsletter; January, April, July and October.

If you have information that you feel members and associate members would benefit from, please email the BAACIO email with items for inclusion in the next update. Thank you

News and Updates:

Bustardthorpe Allotment Shop (now renamed as The Hub)

Plants will start coming out from the polytunnels for you to buy, from the end of April. We usually sell individual pots or 6 packs. Payment either at the shop or in the honesty box please. We will also be trailing out a QR code for you to pay directly into the bank.

The shop and polytunnel are being managed by a group of volunteers to ensure consistent hours and to reduce management burden from the Trustees. We are renaming this **The Hub**. If you wish to help and support them please feel free to pop into the shop and speak with them to see how you can help. Following the AGM, some stock prices were reduced and plant prices are now available in the shop.

Community events and activities: working parties are scheduled in April and May to carry out some minor maintenance, we also have volunteers keeping on top of community areas. Thank you to all of the volunteers helping to maintain the site.

Volunteers: We have had some interest in members becoming trustees and volunteers who are helping us spread the load, and additional volunteers are always welcome – just drop a line to the Bustardthorpe email address. We are pleased to welcome Luke Gooding from Plot 79 as our new Trustee.



Brunton cup – We will be judging the next winners in November this year, and announcing them at next year’s AGM. We will also be making some changes to the prizes, and will be issuing shop vouchers instead of cash to the winners. (to be used on plants or shop items, with no expiry date on the voucher). These will be in the sum of £50 (1st); £30 (2nd) £20 (3rd).

Facebook group – we have a team of volunteers who are going to help us keep our socials up to date. ([20+ Bustardthorpe Allotments Assos CIO | Facebook](#)). Please join.

Volunteers hours – January to March 450 hrs approx....

Works Carried out around the site:

- 20b unsafe structures have been taken down and removed.
- 115b piggery – filling the pit is on going, to create more parking and more community seating area
- Car boot boundary fixed
- The 2 polytunnels will be undergoing some improvements in April, thanks to the grant money received from the Micklegate ward last year.
- Plot 62 drainage works will be carried out during the next few months, this may cause access restrictions to surrounding plots, however we will inform those affected prior to works commencing.
- Storm Dave damage – some storm damage on site, however nothing too severe. We will be reviewing all trees on site again.
- All the above was carried out by volunteers, thank you for all those involved



Finance updates : Jan to March 26 actuals v budget. We are on target for year end.

BAACIO SUMMARY JAN 26 TO DEC 26				Budget 26
	Code	Receipts	Total	
	01	Rents	£ 897	£ 13,533
	02	Donations	£ 225	£ 619
	03	Fundraising & Awards	£ -	£ 980
	04	Shop Sales	£ 674	£ 6,270
	05	Plant Sales	£ -	£ 1,705
	06	Keys	£ 70	£ -
	07	Courses	£ 140	£ -
	08	Other	£ 13	£ -
	09	Deposit for Plots	£ -	
			£ 2,018	£ 23,107
	Code	Payment	Total	
ADMIN	07	1 - Admin & Office Cost	£ 85	£ 1,163
	17	1 - Deposit Plot Refunds	£ -	£ -
	09	1 - Meetings & AGM	£ 240	£ 100
	11	1 - Professional Fees	£ 350	£ 200
	12	1 - Rent Refunds	£ -	£ -
	18	1 - Website & Comms & Branding	£ 160	£ 200
STOCK	05	2 - Shop Stock	£ -	£ 6,208
	06	2 - Plant Stock	£ 26	£ 867
RUNNING COST	19	3 - Equipment	£ 320	£ 700
	01	3 - Insurance	£ 696	£ 1,130
	10	3 - Keys Refunds	£ -	£ -
	08	3 - Portaloo Costs	£ 538	£ 2,222
	16	3 - Refreshments	£ -	£ 210
	02	3 - Water charges	£ -	£ 1,130
SITE MGNT	14	4 - External Labour & Contractors	£ -	£ 250
	13	4 - Plot Repairs inc structure repairs	£ 3,256	£ 4,600
	04	4 - Site Maintenance & Repairs	£ 847	£ 5,650
	03	4 - Tree Management	£ -	£ 850
OTHER	15	5 - Other (prizes, insurance claim, bank charges)	£ 24	£ 191
			£ 6,541	£ 25,671

BAACIO Movements YR26 Actual

Money	Starting
Bank	£15,875
Cash	£25
Income	£2,018
Expenses	£6,541
Available funds	£11,376

Stock Update - 2.4.26

Stock cost value	£2,174
Stock sale value	£3,387
Stock estimated profit	£1,200



Biodiversity and sustainability: we support the importance of biodiversity on the site, and there is more information about that on our website here:

[Conservation | Bustardthorpe Allotments, York](#)

Please let us know what wildlife you have seen on or around your plot, so we can share with members. Our Lettings Officer Jim spotted this mother duck and her ducklings over Easter Weekend!



Bird Ringing on site

Bird ringing has taken place at Bustardthorpe for a number of years as part of a bigger national programme and to understand which species are on site and how to better preserve them. Bird ringing is a type of ornithological monitoring conducted under strict licensing. It generates information on the survival, productivity and movements of birds, helping us to understand why their populations are changing.

Ringing involves placing a lightweight, uniquely numbered metal ring around a bird's leg. This ring is a reliable and harmless method of identifying individual birds. When these individuals are caught again, we gain essential information about how long they live, and how they move and migrate through the landscape. This knowledge is vital for bird conservation.

From Jan - Feb a total of 139 birds were caught and released and 129 were ringed, representing 14 species. One notable retrap was a Long Tailed Tit caught in February which was ringed as a fledgling in May 2025 at York University.



Totals for Bustardthorpe January - March 2026

Species	Jan	Feb	March	Total	Retrap	Jan	Feb	March	Total
Goldfinch	5	6	23	34	Long tailed Tit		1		1
Greenfinch	3	16	9	28	Great Tit		1	1	2
Chaffinch	0	3	4	7	Blue Tit			3	3
Blue Tit	2	5	4	11	Dunnock			4	4
Great Tit	4	4	3	11	Total		2	8	10
Coal Tit	1	2	0	3					
Long Tailed Tit	0	6	0	6					
Dunnock	2	1	1	4					
Robin	1	3	4	8					
Goldcrest	0	3	0	3					
Linnet	0	2	1	3					
Blackbird	0	2	0	2					
Jackdaw	0	0	1	1					
Siskin	0	0	8	8					
Total	18	53	58	129					

Newsletter – January / April / July / October. By email only, available on the website and a copy in the shop and in the main notice board (by the shop). We are also putting up new noticeboards by the shop and the side (racecourse) entrance, to help keep everyone up to date. Please check them regularly.

Anyone who missed the AGM minutes will find them, along with a lot of other useful information on the Bustardthorpe Allotments website here: [Updates](#)

Any Good news stories ? Let us know

Next update will be July 2026. Thank you on behalf of the Trustees

April 2026