

**DBHS
Minutes
of AGM**

**Held on 5th December 2025
at Dalgety Bay Community Centre**

DBHS
Annual General Meeting
Held on 5th December 2025
at Dalgety Bay Community Centre

DBHS

AGM

Held On Friday 5th December 2025

In Dalgety Bay Community Centre at 7:30pm

AGENDA

- 1 Opening Remarks and Apologies
- 2 Minutes of AGM 2024
- 3 Chairman's Report
- 4 Treasurer's Report
- 5 Fees
- 6 Election of Committee
- 7 AOCB
- 8 Close of Meeting

Apologies for DBHS AGM 5th December 2025:

Rob Pearson; Tim Kille; Veronica Simpson; Len Hulston Diana Baty

Chairman's Report
DBHS AGM 2025
Held on 5th December 2025
In Dalgety Bay Community Centre at 7:30pm

1 Opening Remarks:

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Here we are again. The DBHS AGM. Let's get started. A year has passed. Time flies doesn't it.

Please note that this is a Members Only meeting and you should have all signed the attendance register on the way in.

All DBHS members have been sent the AGM papers, including an Agenda, Minutes of AGM 2024, a copy of the signed off accounts for 2024/2025.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting:

In your papers are minutes of the previous AGM. If you would like to propose these minutes, please do. Find a seconder and email DBHS Secretary at am.graham22@yahoo.com

Proposer: Su Kille

Secunder: Derek Baty

3 Chairman's Report:

Meetings:

We have had a variety of speakers this year. There were a few specialist talks like Gardens Managed by NTS, by Simon Jones; Finding David Douglas by Syd House; The Iris by Brian Young. Also there was Arthur Lloyd who continued his USA tour; Peter Hart told us about his garden at Kirklands, in Saline; Jean Glennie gave an interesting talk about Christmas Trees in July; Brian Johnston talked about Heritage in Dalgety Bay and Keith Brand stepped in a couple of times when speakers called off.

A monthly report is sent to the Diary and is inserted into the Grapevine. Thanks to the Diary editor and to Sharon Greig, the Grapevine Editor. The DBHS website page is updated with a report on a monthly basis as is the DBHS Facebook page.

The Lucky Bucket replaced the Meetings Raffles in January 2025.

Membership:

Our present Membership Secretary is Pauline Gourlay, who looks after the Membership Register. She has been doing this for the last year and is stepping down at this AGM. Thank you, Pauline for keeping such good records, this last year.

DBHS Membership stands at 264 (289) spread over 203 (218) households with 192 (201) receiving their Grapevine by email and 11 (10) receiving their Grapevine by paper. There were 8 new members this year and sadly 22 members left. All allotments are allocated.

Membership distribution is spread over 18 areas They are looked after by Committee Members and a team of Distributors. They are responsible for making sure that the members in their area have paid their fees and delivering what needs to be delivered to their members. We could not function without their help.

Pauline will retire from the position of Membership Secretary at this AGM. We will see what happens when we come to the Section entitled Election of DBHS Committee.

Grapevine:

Sharon Greig is the current Grapevine Editor and does a great job. Most of the DBHS Membership take their newsletter by email, with only 11 “paper copy” members now. Because of the low paper copy numbers, we continue to print “in house”, which keeps printing costs down. Everybody therefore gets a full colour Grapevine. Sharon, from time to time, will circulate anything that may be of interest to members. This can only be circulated to members with email of course.

As we only have 11 Grapevines printed, there is no need for sponsorship. The Grapevine, therefore, is not sponsored.

Allotments:

The Allotments are run well by a small sub-committee consisting of Sandy Sheail, Fiona Gray and Mick Wright. The sub-committee are kept busy at the plots, sorting out any issues, allocating plots, inspecting plots, dealing with tree work, hedge work, skip hire, supply of manure, everything to do with the allotments. I thank them for all the hard work that they do.

There has been two Allotment Holder Meetings this year, where all things allotment were discussed.

DBHS Memberships of:

DBHS is a member of the Scottish Gardeners' Forum (SGF), an organisation of horticultural societies set up to facilitate networking between each other and therefore share knowledge. The SGF provides Public Liability Insurance (PLI) at a reasonable cost. This covers all our monthly meetings and the Annual Show. It is a worthwhile organisation to belong to. The SGF meetings are also a good source of speakers for the DBHS Syllabus.

DBHS is a member of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), who provide certain insurances to cover, for example, the contents of the containers at the allotments. I have got to say I thought they provided

insurance for us, but it seems they do not. The administration of RHS insurance was outsourced and we seem to have missed that. I have been unsuccessful in speaking to anyone at the RHS about it. The next DBHS administration will deal with this as a matter of urgency.

The National Vegetable Society (NVS) is another membership we have. They provide advice and information as and when, which we have been able to use in the past. They also provide the NVS Medal for the vegetable section at the Annal Show.

DBHS is a horticultural society, and we see benefits of being members of these various societies.

Seeds:

Seeds have been ordered from the Kings catalogue and the administration of this is being run by Sharon Greig, the Grapevine Editor. We have been fortunate enough to qualify for 50% discount on our seed order, which is the maximum. 40% is passed on to the DBHS membership. This gives DBHS an income to cover administration costs. Thank you, Sharon, for arranging the Kings order on behalf of DBHS and thank you to all those members who ordered from Kings. Discounts are only offered on seeds, so potatoes, onions and sundries have no discount.

Last year the order value was valued at about £1200, We qualified for the maximum 50% discount, which gave about £890 income with about £115 profit.

Tool Hire:

Because of restraints on hiring out electrical equipment to members, we decided to get rid of all electrical equipment altogether. We donated it all to the Ecology Centre at Kinghorn Loch. They were delighted with this. There are still some non-electrical tools which can be hired out but I am told this does not happen very often. Garden sundries are also available for sale.

Plant Sales:

The DBHS Annual DBHS Plant Sale in May was held in May and the Gala Plant Sale was held in June. Neither of the plant sales was profitable, however, we are a local horticultural Society and a local group, so it is important that we have a DBHS Plant Sale and have a table at the Gala.

Web Site and Facebook:

As I said earlier, the website is updated with the monthly report and. Bryan McDowall has had that responsibility up until now. Bryan stands down at this AGM. Thank you to Bryan for all your work on the DBHS Website.

Anja, our current Secretary has been looking after the DBHS Facebook page and posting monthly reports and other any item of interest, as and when requested.

Discussions have been taking place with members of the new Committee about the DBHS Website and indeed the DBHS Facebook page.

Community Work:

The big planters at the church roundabout at the top of Regents Way are maintained by DBHS. Patches of daffodils around the town are also DBHS installations, always with full permission from Fife Council. We support P3 at Donibristle PS and plant tete-a-tete miniature daffodils with them.

Annual Show:

The DBHS 50th Anniversary Annual Show was a big success. It was bigger than 2024, with few spaces on the show benches. There were a good number of exhibitors, which was pleasing to us and again, we had the weather.

The Tea Room was run by the Gala Committee. The Gala Committee provided their royal party to present the trophies to the Young Sections and contributed an additional £10 prize money to the Young Section winners.

Our sponsor, who presented the rest of the trophies this year, was Andrea Fraser, our new minister. She loved being there and presenting all the trophies. She likes to meet new people.

The trophies, all forty-eight of them, including the two sponsors' trophies, are engraved at Inverkeithing Trophy Centre. We get a good turn around with the engraving and any problems are sorted out immediately.

This year, because it was our 50th Anniversary, each trophy winner received a wee tot glass, engraved with the DBHS logo and the line, "A Society Growing for 50 Years". The Young Sections were presented with a re-usable tumbler. There was a special Chairman's trophy which was awarded to Amelia Robertson, for her 373cm tall sunflower.

The Schools Section prizes were awarded within two weeks of the show. "Good Morning Mr Gourlay". I love it. Each of the children, this year received a rosette and a re-usable tumbler.

There was a Craft Fayre on in the church this year again, and they manned a door to take money for the DBHS Annual Show. In return we sent people to the Craft Fayre. This worked well. DBHS received a donation of £300 from the Craft Fayre. We shared this with the Gala people and donated £100 of this to them. After all, they are good enough to run the tearoom for us.

Some people say “great show” “well done, a good day” but some of us know that the Annual Show is indeed an Annual Show with something going on each month to build up for the next Annual Show. I have a diary that tells me what to progress each month and it really is quite a task.

The success of the show can be judged by when we finish putting all the stuff away. In 2024, we finished, in the dark at 8:20pm. This year we finished in daylight at 7:10pm.

DBHS 50th Anniversary:

Because this was the 50th Anniversary of DBHS, there was additional expense. I want to explain a bit about the additional expense and how it was dealt with.

- **All DBHS sponsors this year were asked to contribute an additional £5 with their sponsorship payment. Every one of our sponsors did this, which gave us an additional £170.00.**
- **The Fife Council contribution to the show this year was a very generous £1100.00.**
- **We had additional “Big Sponsors” who were asked for help with funding for the DBHS 50th Anniversary Annual Show.**
- **A couple of new trophies were required for the 50th Anniversary and generous donations allowed us to fund these. Country Images, a glass gift company in the industrial estate, gifted a jade glass trophy. This was engraved and became the Anniversary Trophy replacing the old Anniversary trophy which was looking the worse for wear. Walk Through Garden Design, who sponsor the Allotments Section always give us additional sponsorship money and this year we were able to replace the old Allotments Trophy with a trophy, which is the image of a gold tree on a wooden base.**
- **Inverkeithing Trophy Centre were good enough to do some engraving work for these new trophies at no cost.**
- **Printing Services covered all the costs for the DBHS First Day Cover (FDC). This included printing all the special FDC envelopes and the inserts used. There were 50 envelopes printed. They printed the test envelope which was sent to British Philatelic Bureau for approval. It was approved and the FDCs were hand stamped with the date 22- 05-2025. The cost of this service was £234.00. Orders for FDCs amounted to £216.00, which nearly covered this cost. One of the FDCs has gone to Dalgety Community Trust and will be part of the heritage collection in the new Community hub.**
- **John Young Signs funded the cost of our side of the A1 Gala/DBHS board signs, which go up around the town to advertise the show. They printed the DBHS information in gold this year to signify the 50th Anniversary.**
- **Fife Council provided our 50th Anniversary hanging baskets that were situated at the bottom of Harbour Drive, across from the new care home. Fife Council have done all this for nothing and maintained them. They were quite outstanding.**
- **John Young Signs also funded the cost of the Hanging Basket signs.**

- **Scottish Gardeners' Forum gave a £50 grant towards the cost of tumblers for the Young Sections and Schools.**
- **Dalgety Community Trust (DCT) funded £82 towards the cost of the tumblers. With the SGF donation, this covered the total cost of the tumblers.**
- **Muir Homes funded the cost of the tot glasses, which was £219.60.**
- **The 50th Anniversary ended with a surplus of around £60.00.**

Hopefully, this shows you that for the 50th anniversary of DBHS we were able to raise money to cover all the additional costs.

Tea Rota:

There is no official tea rota these days. There is always someone at the meetings who will help serve the teas and coffees. Your help has been gratefully received.

Raffle:

We no longer have a formalised raffle. What we have now is the lucky bucket. People who come to the meetings buy a ticket for £1. At the end of the meeting, the stub go into the lucky bucket and a ticket is drawn the winner receives half the money in the lucky bucket and the other half goes into DBHS funds.

Committee:

My thanks to the DBHS Committee for all the hard work done for DBHS over the past year, indeed over the whole time I have been Chairman.

I found some old minutes of DBHS and discovered I joined the Committee in 1990 as Allotment Manager. I reverted to Committee Member in 1993 then became Chairman in 1995. In 1997 I came off the Committee altogether because I had a contracting job down south. I came back as Committee Member in 1999 and 2000 and at the AGM in 2000 was again elected Chairman.

I feel I have given a lot to DBHS. I am very proud of how it has developed under my leadership as Chairman. The Show Schedule has developed with individual Section sponsorship. This asked for half the prize money of the section plus a couple of pounds for a rosette. The advertisers also became well established.

Of course there was also the Gardening Scotland days. We had a successful run at that with four Silver Gilt medals and one Gold Medal, when we were also awarded the People's Prize award.

DBHS has been my baby, and I am sad that it must come to an end. I hope you think I have been a good Chairman and that DBHS will continue to flourish in the future.

Thank You:

My thanks, also, to everyone else who has helped in any way helping DBHS over the last year. We could not do it without you.

Michael Gourlay, Chairman, DBHS

4 Treasurers Report:

See the attached papers, which show the financials for DBHS for the period 1st November 2024 to 31st October 2025 and the Treasurer's Report.

It should be noted that there is the signature to show that the accounts have been inspected and signed off.

Pauline Gourlay read out the Treasurer's Report for the DBHS Financial Accounts for year ended 31st October 2025.

A brief discussion about the accounts took place.

There was a suggestion to save money by not having meetings every and month cutting down on the Annual Show. This was not thought feasible because Item 2 of the DBHS Constitution states:

"The aims of the Society are to promote and foster interest in the garden and the home by means of shows lectures and other means"

The suggestion was therefore rejected.

Can I have proposer and seconder for the accounts please.

Proposer: Willie Allan

Secunder: Pauline Hulston

5 Fees for Next Year

Before deciding what the fees should be for next year, Willie Allan, a retired Scottish Enterprise Business Advisor and long term DBHS Member will give a short presentation on the financials of DBHS.

5a DBHS Membership Fees:

Based on the information given by the Treasurer and by Willie Allan, the DBHS Committee recommends that the DBHS Membership fee should be set at £10 for 2026.

Proposer: Audrey Fleming

Seconded: Donald McQueen

The DBHS Annual Membership fee for 2026 is therefore £10 per annum.

5b DBHS Allotment Fees:

Based on the information given by the Treasurer and by Willie Allan, the DBHS Committee recommends that the DBHS Allotment Fee be set at £30 per plot from 2026.

This recommendation was put to the floor for discussion.

An amendment proposal of £25 per plot was put forward by Ian Henry.

This resulted in further, often heated, discussion. Keith Brand put forward his views about spending and future costs and suggested that someone put forward a proposal of £52 per annum per plot. This was taken up by Gordon Shewan who put forward the proposal of allotment fees to be set at £52 per plot.

A vote by show of hands was then taken. The result of this vote was 17 for and 12 against. The proposal of £52 per plot was therefore carried.

Proposer: Gordon Shewan

Seconded: Pauline Willox

The DBHS Allotment fee for 2026 is therefore £52 per annum.

6 Election of DBHS Committee:

Preamble:

As well as me stepping down as Chairman; Anja Graham will step down as Secretary; David English will step down as Treasurer; Pauline Gourlay will step down as Membership Secretary; Bryan McDowall, who looked after the Website, will step down; Matthew Simpson will step down as Committee Member but is willing to help at show time; Sharon Greig is willing to stay on as Grapevine Editor; Sandy Sheail, Fiona Gray and Mick Wright stepped down earlier this evening, so we need a full Allotments Sub-Committee as well..

I am pleased to say that DBHS will not fold because there is a Chairman Elect, A Treasurer Elect and a Membership Secretary Elect. These additional Committee positions are already in place so will just lose their "Elect" status, *(Item 10 of the DBHS Constitution: The Committee can co-opt additional members if considered necessary.)*

These positions were created on the Committee and the people co-opted on to the Committee a couple of months ago. This meant that we could sort out the cheque book signatories before this Committee ended and the new Committee was established.

These additional Committee positions are in place so will just lose their "Elect" status

Election of DBHS Committee:

It is important that there is a Committee for DBHS to be run properly

Chairman:

NB: Michael Gourlay is, after many years, standing down as Chairman of DBHS.

Keith Brand was co-opted onto the Committee on 7th August 2025 to ensure continuity and that there was a Chairman in place when Michael Gourlay stood down.

Proposer: Pauline Willox

Secunder: Matthew Simpson

Secretary:

NB: Anja Graham is, after many years, standing down as Secretary of DBHS.

The nomination for **Secretary** is

Proposer:

Secunder:

There were no nominations for Secretary.

Treasurer:

NB: David English is, after many years, standing down as Treasurer of DBHS.

Pauline Willox was co-opted onto the Committee on 7th August 2025 to ensure continuity and that there would be a Treasurer in place when David English stood down.

Proposer: Matthew Simpson

Secunder: Ann Rennie

Membership Secretary:

NB: Pauline Gourlay was in a caretaker position as Membership Secretary for one year since the last AGM in 2024. She is, this year, standing down as Membership Secretary of DBHS.

Lynn Hewitt was co-opted onto the Committee on 7th August 2025 to ensure continuity and that there would be a Membership Secretary in place when Pauline Gourlay down.

Proposer: Pauline Hulston

Seconder: Ray Fleming

Grapevine Editor:

NB: Sharon Greig is willing to continue as Grapevine Editor.

The nomination for **Grapevine Editor** is **Sharon Greig**.

Proposer: Lynn Hewitt

Seconder: Ann Rennie

Committee Member – Website:

NB: Bryan McDowall is standing down as Committee Member dealing with the DBHS Website.

The nomination for **Committee Member – Website** is

Proposer:

Seconder:

There were no nominations for Committee Member - Website.

Committee Member – Allotments Sub-Committee:

NB: Sandy Sheail, Fiona Gray and Mick Wright are all standing down from the Allotment Sub-Committee.

The nomination for **Committee Member – Allotment Sub-Committee (Three are required)** are:

Name

Proposer:

Seconder:

Name

Proposer:

Seconder:

Name

Proposer:

Seconder:

There were no nominations for Committee Member – Allotment Sub-Committee.

Committee Member:

There is a requirement for Committee Members to help run the business of DBHS. At least three would be good.

The nominations for **Committee Members** are:

Name:

Proposer:

Seconder:

Proposer:

Seconder:

Name:

Proposer:

Seconder:

Name:

Proposer:

Seconder:

There were no nominations for Committee Member.

There are no other nominations, which have been passed to the Secretary, as part of the AGM procedure.

7 AOCB:

The Secretary has received no other business by the date stipulated. So, there being no other business, this AGM can be considered closed.

8 And Finally:

All household members will receive a Syllabus card for 2026 with their next Grapevine. There will be no Community Centre Meeting on 2nd January 2026 due to the proximity to New Year's Day and also the Community Centre will probably be closed due to Fife Council holidays. Have a Happy Christmas and a Good New Year.

We will finish the AGM with a cup of tea and a blether.

The 2025 DBHS Annual General Meeting is now closed.

**Michael Gourlay
Chairman DBHS**

DBHS
Annual Accounts
For AGM
Held on 5th December 2025
at Dalgety Bay Community Centre

1. Income & Expenditure for Year Ending October 31st 2025					
Income	2025	2024		Increase/Decrease	
50th Anniversary	£910.11	£0.00		£910.11	
Mem/Allotments	£1,892.00	£2,060.50		-£168.50	
Seeds (King's)	£917.33	£623.71		£293.62	
Plant Sales	£497.00	£0.00		£497.00	
Gala Sales	£144.00	£478.63		-£334.63	
Lucky Bucket Income	£208.00	£320.42		-£112.42	
Allotment Sundries Sold	£61.50	£22.80		£38.70	
Community Work	£26.40	£0.00		£26.40	
Donations	£43.70	£143.45		-£99.75	
RBS Interest	£32.92	£56.06		-£23.14	
Annual Show	£3,588.45	£2,935.38		£653.07	
Total Income	£8,321.41	£6,640.95		£1,680.46	
Expenditure	2025	2024			
50th Anniversary	£628.27	£0.00		£628.27	
Affiliation & Insurance	£271.80	£253.40		£18.40	
Speakers' Fees	£350.00	£310.00		£40.00	
Rent of Hall	£143.30	£137.00		£6.30	
Lucky Bucket Expenses	£117.50	£0.00		£117.50	
Catering & Refresh'ts	£45.87	£33.47		£12.40	
Seeds (King's)	£799.92	£525.43		£274.49	
Plant Sale	£288.35	£0.00		£288.35	
Gala Plant Sale	£141.63	£384.02		-£242.39	
Donations	£0.00	£25.00		-£25.00	
Allotment Expenses	£596.62	£785.22		-£188.60	
Expenses incl postage	£77.98	£172.73		-£94.75	
Community work	£288.02	£261.57		£26.45	
Printing Grapevine	£17.49	£16.49		£1.00	
General Printing	£273.84	£203.23		£70.61	
Other Expenditure	£0.00	£0.00		£0.00	
Annual Show	£4,480.67	£4,633.26		-£152.59	
Total Expenditure	£8,521.26	£7,740.82		£780.44	
Surplus	-£199.85	-£1,099.87			

Annual Show 2025					
Income	2025	2024			
Ads & Sponsors	£2,910.00	£2,343.85		£566.15	
Trade Stalls	£75.00	£90.00		-£15.00	
Entrance Money	£250.10	£247.00		£3.10	
Exhibitors Fees	£11.50	£15.80		-£4.30	
Catering & Refresh'ts	£0.00	£0.00		£0.00	
Donations	£341.85	£231.23		£110.62	
Chairman's Bottle	£0.00	£7.50		-£7.50	
Total Income	£3,588.45	£2,935.38		£653.07	
Expenditure	2025	2024			
Catering	£74.63	£55.00		£19.63	
Exhibitors' Prizes	£511.80	£530.20		-£18.40	
Rosettes	£157.00	£153.00		£4.00	
New Trophies	£77.35	£56.97		£20.38	
Printing	£1,490.97	£1,926.12		-£435.15	
Engraving	£567.14	£756.50		-£189.36	
Hire of Transport	£222.00	£265.01		-£43.01	
Chairman's Bottle	£26.00	£0.00		£26.00	
Postage & Stationery	£129.73	£95.55		£34.18	
Miscellaneous	£408.95	£114.51		£294.44	
Judges Fees	£0.00	£0.00		£0.00	
Donations	£125.00	£60.00		£65.00	
Hire of Community Ctr	£105.70	£86.40		£19.30	
Hire of Church Hall	£554.40	£504.00		£50.40	
Hire of Kabin	£30.00	£30.00		£0.00	
Total Expenditure	£4,480.67	£4,633.26		-£152.59	
Surplus	-£892.22	-£1,697.88			

Other Activities 2025						
	Income		Expenditure	Profit (loss)		
King's Seeds Order	£917.33		£799.92	£117.41		
Plant Sales	£497.00		£288.35	£208.65		
Gala Sales	£144.00		£141.63	£2.37		
Allotments	£61.50		£596.62	-£535.12		
				-£206.69		

Treasurer's Report to the AGM 2025

The overall income and expenditure categories, the 50th Anniversary, for this only shows a surplus of nearly £282.

Membership fees are down this year by nearly £170.

The sale of Kings seeds is well up on last year but as always this is matched by a similar increase in the cost.

The surplus from the Lucky Bucket prize at the monthly meetings is only £90.50 which, when compared to £320.42 from the raffle last year is disappointing. It is obviously not as popular as the raffle.

The annual show I shall deal with later.

On the expenditure side, most of the categories, aside from those already covered, show only small variations from last year. Worth noting though that this year's Gala sales made a very small surplus – possibly due to the poor weather. DBHS presence at the Gala is an important community contribution.

If income and expenditure for the annual show are omitted, income for the remaining items is over four thousand seven hundred, with expenses weighing in at just over four thousand, giving a surplus for the non Show items of around seven hundred pounds.

Touching briefly on 'other activities' there is a regular surplus earned from the sale of King's seeds and we thank Sharon for her hard work organising the orders and distributing the goods. The annual plant sale is another reliable 'little earner'.

Moving on to the Annual Show, starting with income. Two categories show marked increases. Ads and sponsors with an increase of over £550 due in large part to our retiring Chairman's tireless efforts, one of which resulted in another generous donation from Fife Council of £1,100. Donations were also up over £100. On the expenditure side, savings on the cost of brochure printing exceeded £400 as well as further savings on trophy engraving.

The miscellaneous category shows an increase of nearly £300. This includes £80 for timber to repair trestle tables and £172 for the cost of washing and ironing the tablecloths.

To summarise, there was a loss of nearly £900 on the show this year, which, although a great deal better than last year's loss of close on seventeen hundred, is nevertheless substantial, and obviously has a serious impact on the society's financial position.

Without the advertising and sponsorship, the show just wouldn't happen and it is difficult to imagine how that income can be improved upon.

Another area, but a more contentious one, is, of course, our allotments. For many years, the annual expenses for the allotments has varied widely depending on whether or not there has been any tree or hedge maintenance. The income is a constant of £576 from membership fees plus small amounts from sales of stock items. The present position is that there is an underfunding of £765

In order to address that, and provide a regular surplus the treasurer and committee are recommending an annual fee of £30 per plot.

With regard to membership of the society, and in light of the situation outlined above, the treasurer and committee are also suggesting an increase in fees of £5 bringing the total to £10.

In a relatively short space of time, just four years, the closing balance has fallen from close on five thousand pounds in 2021 to around seventeen hundred this year. That clearly cannot continue, if we are to function as an active society, which is why we hope the membership will agree that these increases are now imperative.

Mike to ask for a proposer and seconder for accounts

Proposer: Willie Allan

Seconder: Pauline Hulston

Paper Presented b Willie Allan, DBHS Member

You asked me as a retired Scottish Enterprise Business Advisor to conduct an independent assessment of DBHS finances and below are my findings and recommendations.

In the past 3 financial years DBHS has sustained a total financial deficit of £3012, an average of £1000 per year, dropping the year-end bank balance from £4759 in October 2022 to £1747 in October 2025. This level of annual deficit is unsustainable and heading the society towards insolvency.

At its most basic, the club exists to “promote and foster interest in the garden and the home” by running activities consistent with breaking even financially from year to year.

Set against current basic membership income of £1300, the club sustains annual meeting costs of £540 and administrative expenses of £640, leaving only a little over £100 to fund other activities, which are almost entirely reliant on breaking even.

Essentially, in running its core business, the club runs in a break-even position, and consistent annual deficits are due to two additional perennial loss-making activities: allotments and the Annual Show, which combined have drained a total of just under £5000 from club funds over the past 3 years.

In the past 3 years, the allotments have run at a cumulative cost to general club membership funds (i.e. cost in addition to allotment fee income) of £1008 (24% of total general membership fee income). Costs vary from year to year, but the Society Treasurer has estimated possible allotment costs in the coming year at around £1500, approximately £1000 greater than allotment fee income, which is equivalent to nearly £4 of every membership subscription. It cannot be correct for all 280 members to be expected to pay £4 each to maintain fees for 50 allotments seriously below economic level.

The second drain on club funds is the Annual Show, which in the past 3 years has run at a total deficit of £4137, which equates almost exactly to total membership income (£4187) over the same period. Without change, this will exhaust society funds within 2 years.

Membership and allotment fees have not increased for some years but, on the assumption that there is no appetite for a curtailment in club activities, fees need to be increased now to a level that puts the club back into a sustainable financial position.

A doubling of the membership fee to £10 would, even with a drop to 250 members, generate sufficient income for the club to continue its current general activities plus meet projected cost of the annual show. Increasing the allotment fee to £30 would generate sufficient (ring fenced) income to meet projected 2025/26 costs of £1500 with a modest maximum deficit of £60. In future, it should then be for the allotment Sub-Committee to determine annual allotment fees geared to breaking even financially on projected allotment costs for the year ahead.

Should membership and allotment fees remain unchanged at their current levels, the projected deficit for 2025/25 would be £2020 against £1747 starting bank balance, which is an insolvency situation.

The tables below show the financial summary for the past year, a forecast summary illustrating the year-end insolvency situation should fees not increase and finally, a summary break-even forecast based on fees increasing to the levels suggested above. I trust that this meets the requirements of your requested review.

Willie Allan

26 November 2025

DBHS FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2024/25

	Income	Expenditure	Net Income/Cost
Membership Fees	£1,316.00		£1,316.00
Meeting Costs		£539.17	(£539.17)
Admin / Other Activities	£1,930.85	£2,276.53	(£345.68)
Annual Show	£3,588.45	£4,480.67	(£892.22)
50 th Anniversary	£910.11	£628.27	£281.84
Sub-Total			(£179.23)
Allotments	£637.50	£596.62	£40.88
Totals	£8,321.41	£8,521.26	(£199.85)

DBHS SUMMARY FORECAST 2025/26 (No Fee Increases)

	Income	Expenditure	Net Income/Cost
Membership Fees	£1,316.00		£1,316.00
Meeting Costs		£520.00	(£520.00)
Admin / Other Activities	£1,910.00	£2,370.00	(£460.00)
Annual Show	£3,000.00	£4,450.00	(£1,450.00)
Sub Total			(£1,114.00)
Allotments	£576.00	£1,500.00	(£924.00)
Totals	£6,802.00	£8,840.00	(£2,038.00)

DBHS SUMMARY FORECAST 2025/26 (With Fee Increases)

	Income	Expenditure	Net Income/Cost
Membership Fees	£2,500.00		£2,500.00
Meeting Costs		£520.00	(£520.00)
Admin / Other Activities	£1,910.00	£2,370.00	(£460.00)
Annual Show	£3,000.00	£4,450.00	(£1,450.00)
Sub Total			£70.00
Allotments	£1440.00	£1500.00	(£60.00)
Totals	£8,850.00	£8,840.00	£10.00

AGM 2025 - Attendance 42

No	First Name	Surname	Allot	
738	Agnieszka (Aga)	Adameczek		
482	Malcolm	Adamson		
819	Colin	Ainsworth		
28	Willie & Agnes	Allan		<i>D. Allan</i>
764	Pam & Willie	Anthony		
615	Sheila	Arnott		
100	Robin & Nan	Arnott		
113	Derek & Diana	Baty	A1, A2	<i>Derek & Diana Baty</i>
612	Graham	Bell		<i>Graham Bell</i>
748	Zelda	Blyth	A36	
128	David & Jean	Boath	A20	
879	Tina	Bool		
175	Bruce & Brenda	Borrows		
859	Jean & Mike	Boyce		
711	Bernadette	Boyd	A40	
850	Ian	Boyd	A6	
865	Keith & Allison	Brand		<i>Keith & Allison Brand</i>
759	Peter & Anne	Brennan		
892	John	Brennan		
825	Alan	Brown		
767	Tom & Eleanor	Bryson		
440	Richard & Isobel	Bryson		
805	Greg & Muriel	Buick	A37	
796	Marianne & Niall	Bull & Butchart	A32	
85	Beattie	Burnside		
640	Neil	Campbell	A26	
901	Carol	Canning		<i>Carol Canning</i>
836	David	Carey	A28	
890	Agne	Carstairs	W9	
358	Pat	Cayzer		
891	Alan	Cline		
652	David & Gill	Cochrane		
898	Gillian	Cormack	W15	
822	Chris	Coutts		
491	Ian & Pauline	Craig		
775	Bill	Cunningham	A31	

No	First Name	Surname	Allot	
420	Alex	Davidson		
614	Reginald	Davies		
726	Rebecca	Davies		
854	Angela	Day	W1	
48	Neil	Denness		
815	William	Dewar	A21a	
824	Hugh & Theresa	Dietz & Andrew		
897	Carole	Dorrance	W14	
534	Jim & Norma	Dougherty		
559	Lena	Drummond		
878	Chris & Christine	Du Feu		
856	Joanna	Dziedzic-Rzepecka	A21b	
161	Peter	Elliott		
742	David	English		
789	Val	Fairgrieve		
214	Andrew & Susan	Fish	A8	
809	Audrey & Ray	Fleming		Re Audrey Fleming
808	Dr Craig	Fleming		
779	Ryan	Frampton		
435	Helen	Galloway	A33	
341	Anne & Andrew	Gardner		
888	Sandra	Gell		
478	Marjory	Gilbert		
145	David	Goldie		
5	Sue	Gooda		
126	Michael	Gourlay		Michael Gourlay
126	Pauline	Gourlay		P. G. Gourlay
428	Bertha	Govan		
601	Sarah	Govan		
524	Anja	Graham		A. Graham
392	Iain & Linda	Grant		
847	Kevin	Gray	A9	
818	Fiona	Gray	A11	Fiona Gray
849	Claire	Greenwood	A35	
66	Ian & Claire	Greig		
729	Sharon	Greig		Shgreig

No	First Name	Surname	Allot	
893	Douglas	Haddow	W10	
43	Heather	Haines		
861	Brian	Hamilton		
857	Thomas	Hancock	A15	Thurber.
855	Christine	Harley	A19	C. Harley.
229	Pat	Harper		
414	Gillian	Harraghy		
886	Jim	Harwood		
590	Margaret	Haynes		
594	Neil & Sara	Henderson	A42	
6	Ian & Aileen	Henry	A12, A13	21st March 1941
902	Pierre	Hernandez	W16	1st 2nd
887	Lynn	Hewitt		1st 2nd
869	David	Hind	A24	
568	Christine	Hislop		
762	Ian & Sheena	Hull	A44	
885	Anne	Hulse		
651	Len & Pauline	Hulston		Pauline 1st 2nd
417	Alistair	Inglis		
862	Eddie & Olive	Inglis		
486	Shona	Irvine		
667	Shwan & Another	Jaf		
832	Margaret	Johnston		
678	Derek & Fiona	Jones	A38	
462	Vanessa	Kent		
768	Carol	Kent		
792	Susan & Alan	Kerr	A39	
644	Su & Tim	Kille		SM Kille
676	Steve	King	A22	
351	Norman & Judy	Kurzman		
3	Joe	Lafferty		
160	Merilyn	Laing		
863	Jonathan	Law	A45	
874	Craig & Holly	Lemm & Swaney	W3	
691	Jim	Lister		
860	Mike & Anne	Low		

No	First Name	Surname	Allot	
554	William	MacDonald		
826	Lorraine	MacDonald		
509	Dorothy	MacDonald		
96	Roddy	Mackay		
883	Wendy & Christine	Mackenzie & Ross	W8	
900	Iain	MacLean		
877	Vivian	Maeda	W5	
576	Julie	Magee		
793	Gertrude	Mallon		
490	Elizabeth	Marshall		
572	Janetta	Matheson		
837	Marilyn	Mayes		
839	Ingrid	Mayes		
660	Stewart & Janet	Mayne	A27	J Mayne S. Mc/AN
33	George	Mayor		
9	Joyce	McConville		
718	Graham & Catharine	McDonald		
841	Bryan	McDowall		
449	Alice	McEwan		
811	Ruth	McIntyre		
807	Rosemary	McKenzie		
794	Charlene	McLaren		
881	John	McLaren		
720	Heather	McLean		
772	Nell	McLelland		
820	Gabriel	McNeil		
722	Donald	McQueen	A41	D McQueen
643	Linda	Melville	A47	L Melville
610	Hugh & Helen	Miller		
823	Robyn & Peter	Milne	A24	
843	Brian	Mitchell	A5	
871	Colin	Moir	A16	C Moir
899	Alika	Molloy		
556	Cat	Moyes		
579	Lorna	Muir		
831	Ann	Murray		

No	First Name	Surname	Allot	
443	Bert & Ann	Nairns		
755	Jacqueline & Stuart	Niven	A18	
895	Heather	Palmer	W12	
743	Chris & Moira	Park		
740	Dr Suresh	Patel		
235	Rob & Margaret	Pearson	A14	MP
638	Margaret	Pender		
864	Irene	Perreux-Lloyd		
845	Ewan	Pitkeathly		
446	Jim & Sandra	Plummer		
851	William	Poncelet	A43	W Poncelet
842	Melanie	Porter		
852	Sue	Proudlove	A7	
716	Chrystine	Rae		
747	Jackie	Reid		
391	Ann & Ian	Rennie		A. & J. Rennie
838	Andrea	Renton	A34	
156	Douglas	Rew		
873	Fraser	Richardson	W2	
770	Corinne & Malcolm	Robb		
108	Chris	Roberts		
631	Innes & David	Robertson	A17	
844	Carla	Robertson	A10	
178	Dave	Robinson		
668	Barbara & Trevor	Robinson & Burley		
412	George	Ross		
834	David	Rowbotham		
546	Eleanor & Pete	Rowe & Smith		
761	Irene & Gavin	Russell & Dunbar	A48	Russell & Gavin Russell

Apologies
 Rob, Tim, Veronica / Len / Diana,
 Pearson Kille Simpson Hudson Baty

No	First Name	Surname	Allot	
10	Val	Scott		
19	Gudrun	Shah		
606	Derrick	Shannon	A29	<i>[Signature]</i>
675	Sally & Sandy	Sheail	A3, A4	<i>[Signature]</i>
799	Gordon	Shewan	A46	<i>[Signature]</i>
896	Lisa	Shields	W13	
499	Douglas & Joan	Simpson		
345	Matthew & Veronica	Simpson		<i>[Signature]</i> - Apt. V.S.
202	James & Rena	Slater		
876	John	Small	W4	
894	Yvonne	Smith	W11	
416	Sue	Smith		
833	Jean & Geoffrey	Spence		
709	Peter & Christine	Stanford		
882	Catherine	Stewart	W7	
360	Jim & May	Stewart		
694	Alan	Stirling		
647	Mary	Stobbart		
791	Carole	Strong		
448	Joan	Tennant		
813	Jamie	Thomson	A23	
137	Helen	Todd		
828	Isabella	Toole		
730	Jill & Neil	Turnbull	A30	<i>[Signature]</i>
866	Anne	Welch		
875	Pauline	Wilox		<i>P. Willox</i>
592	Jack & Sandra	Wilson		
659	Sandy	Wood		
880	Heidi	Woods	W6	
1	Bob	Wright		
562	Mick & Tricia	Wright	A25	<i>[Signature]</i> & <i>M. Wright</i>
445	Anne	Yarney		

DALGETY BAY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**CONSTITUTION**

1. Membership is open to any resident of Dalgety Bay and environs. Completed application forms are processed by the membership Secretary. Continuing membership is at the discretion of the Committee.
2. The aims of the Society are to promote and foster interest in the garden and the home by means of shows, lectures and other means.
3. The membership fee shall be decided at the AGM.
4. A quorum for a General Meeting shall consist of at least 10 members. All decisions to be taken on a simple majority of members. The chairperson to have a deliberative as well as a casting vote.
5. An Annual General Meeting must be held during the month of December in respect of the year ended 31 October.
6. General meetings can be convened at 2 weeks notice.
7. Any proposed amendments to the constitution must be received by the Secretary one calendar month before the AGM.
8. Officers of the Society shall be
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Secretary
 - c. Treasurer
9. The Committee of the Society shall consist of the 3 Office Bearers plus other members.
10. The Committee can co-opt additional members if considered necessary.
11. The Committee members are elected for a 2-year period and may be re-elected for further terms of office.
12. The Committee is responsible for
 - a. The day to day running of the Society
 - b. Negotiations with outside bodies
 - c. Ensuring that the rules of the Society are upheld
 - d. Keeping accounts of the financial transactions undertaken on behalf of the Society and presenting an examined statement of accounts and balance sheet to the AGM.
13. In the event of the cessation of the Society, three Administrators will dispose of any funds and possessions, with decisions being taken by a simple majority.

The Administrators will normally be the three office bearers of the Society, that is, the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer, but may be other members of the Society elected at an AGM or EGM.

The administrators will donate any outstanding balance of funds equally to Dalgety Bay Community Woodlands Group (DBCWG), part of Dalgety Community Trust, and the two Primary Schools in Dalgety Bay, to be used for projects with a horticultural connection for the benefit of the community in general or the pupils of the schools.

The administrators will realise any physical assets of the Society or donate these as appropriate in the circumstances at the time.

Constitution as amended and adopted at the AGM on 6th December 2024.
Michael Gourlay, Chairman,
Anja Graham, Secretary.