VENTNOR FRIENDS OF WIGHT HORTICULTURE

REGISTERED CIO No. 1174571

President: Mike Fitt OBE

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 11th June 2026

The Green Room, Salisbury Gardens, Dudley Road, Ventnor PO3 1EJ at 7.00 pm

You are invited to join the Committee from 6.30pm for refreshments

Please send apologies to
The Hon Sec, Jenny Parker 01893 730668 secretary@vfwh.org.uk

If you wish to put forward any resolutions to the AGM, please notify Val Pitts: chairman.vfwh@gmail.com 07887 848449 no later than 4th June 2026

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Trustees 2024/2025

Mrs Anne Hornett
Mrs Jennifer Parker
Mrs Sally Peake
Mrs Valerie Pitts
Mrs Bridgette Sibbick

Executive Committee

Val Pitts	Chairman
Bridgette Sibbick	Hon Treasurer
Jenny Parker	Hon Secretary
John Bagshawe	
Anne Hornett	Membership and Events
Sally Peake	Events
Bridgette Sibbick	Events
Ros Whistance	Ventnorensis
Jessica Lewis	Webmaster and IT adviser
Katalin Zongar	Publicity (co-opted in 2025)

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AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**

2. **Approval of the Minutes of the AGM held on 17 July 2025**
   The chairman will invite approval by a show of hands.

3. **Matters Arising.**

4. **Chairman's Report on behalf of The Trustees for the year from 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025.**

5. **Hon Treasurer's Report.**
   Approval invited by a show of hands.
   Appointment of Independent Examiner

6. **Membership Report.**

7. **Appointment of Trustees of VBGFS**
   Val Pitts and Jenny Parker retire by rotation and seek re-election

8. **Election of Officers and Committee for CIO**

   Kat Zongor was co-opted to the Committee during the last year.
   The Committee would like to propose Valerie Pitts for election as Chairman,
   Bridgette Sibbick as Hon Treasurer and Jenny Parker as Hon Secretary.
   Election of other members of the Committee: Sally Peake, Anne Hornett, Ros Whistance, John Bagshawe, Jess Lewis and Kat Zongor.

   Approval invited by a show of hands.

9. **Any Other Business**
   Items for discussion submitted by members in writing by 4 June 2026

Meeting Closes

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Presentation of the Harold Hillier Award
for exceptional services to horticulture on the Isle of Wight

VENTNOR FRIENDS OF WIGHT HORTICULTURE

REGISTERED CIO No. 1174571
President: Mike Fitt OBE AHRHS

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 3rd July 2025
The Green Room, Salisbury Gardens, Ventnor

The Chairman, Val Pitts opened the AGM and welcomed 18 members and confirmed the meeting was quorate.

1. Apologies had been received from 18 members.

2. The Minutes of the AGM held on 17.7.24 were approved by a show of hands.

3. Matters Arising. None.

4. Chairman's Report.
Val Pitts presented her report on behalf of the Trustees for the year 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024 outlining the structure, governance and management of the charity and its achievements and performance over the year. She also summarized the exchange of letters and allegations from VBG CIC which resulted in the agreement to change the name of the charity and revise the objects submitted and approved by the Charity Commission.
(Note: These resolutions were passed unanimously at the Extraordinary General Meeting on 12 December 2024.)

5. The Financial Report and Annual Accounts up to 30 September 2024
Jenny Parker presented the report in the absence of the Hon Treasurer. Expenditure had exceeded income by £7749. This was explained by the £13,223 donation to VBG CIC to cover the wages of Trish Brenchley until May 2024 and an unexpected offical claim from the CIC for monies they alleged VBGFS owed (£5132.52 plus court fees of £575). The report gave a full explanation of the history of this claim and despite excellent and pro bono legal advice the judgement awarded the money to the CIC. David Grist agreed to oversee the accounts as an independent advisor.

6. Membership Report
Anne Hornett reported membership numbers as 268 at the end of September 2024. She outlined the progress of the new website.

7. Mike Fitt, President, took over the chair to oversee the elections.
He took the opportunity to thank the Committee and Trustees for the continuing support for horticulture and particularly for the training of apprentices.
Val Pitts took the opportunity to thank retiring Trustees; Tim Woodcock for his 10 years as Hon Treasurer and keeping meticulous records. Peter Coleman who, as a retired Ventnor GP, had joined us to promote well-being in VBG with some success and thanked him especially for his amazing support as Vice Chairman.

Appointment of Trustees of VBGFS: Sally Peake (co-opted to the Committee in April), Bridgette Sibbick and Anne Hornett were elected to join Val Pitts and Jenny Parker as Trustees.

8. Election of Officers and Committee for the Charitable Incorporated Organisation:
The Committee proposed: Jess Lewis, who was co-opted to the Committee during the year as webmaster and IT advisor, Chairman Val Pitts, Hon Treasurer Bridgette Sibbick, Hon Secretary Jenny Parker, Editor Ventnorensis Ros Whistance, Membership Secretary Anne Hornett, Sally Peake Education and John Bagshawe.

9. Resolution to amend the Constitution
The Chairman proposed a further amendment to the Constitution to confirm Trustees for the charity should be no fewer than 3 and to correct some anomalies. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

The Meeting closed at 7.45 pm

Val Pitts then took the opportunity to update members on current activities. These include the ongoing legal correspondence with the CIC and the launch of the Simon Goodenough Bursay Fund with an outline of levels of award anticipated. She also said the CIO, following consultation with Debs Goodenough, would donate plants for the gardens at The Mountbatten Hospice in memory of Simon.

Mike Fitt then addressed the members with details of the Professional Gardeners Forum which is active on the Island and the opportunities for VGWH to support projects to promote and support gardening as a career. The Forum will have a stall at the Wolverton show in September and will include space for promotion of VFWH.

Chairman

Ventnor Friends of Wight Horticulture
CIO number 1174751

STATEMENT OF ASSETS
as at 30 September 2025

		2025 £	2024 £
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank	Current account	369	
	Business Reserve	20,269	
	Liquidity	50,281	
Total Assets		**70,919**	**67,060**
Represented by:			
Restricted Funds	Education	20,257	20,086
	"Tropical House"	5,247	
Unrestricted Funds		45,415	46,974
Total Funds		**70,919**	**67,060**

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 30 September 2025

1) Accounting Policies
All Income and Expenditure is dealt with on a recepts and payments basis in accordance with the requirements of the Charity Commission for a charity of our size

2) Restricted Funds

I) The Education Fund
This fund has been renamed from 1st October 2025 as The Simon Goodenough Bursary Fund

II) The "Tropical House Fund"
This is the remnant of a long-completed appeal for funds to replace panes of glass in the Tropical House at VBG.
It meets the Charity Commission criteria to be declared a failed fund and redesignated for other purposes with the Commission's permission

Policy on Designated Funds
- It is VFWH's policy to allocate receipts of an ad hoc nature, such as legacies or one-off specific grants or donations to Designated Funds
- The capital will be kept intact until such time as a suitable application of such funds is identified, if not previously stipulated
- The income from the capital will be added to other funds and used for the benefit of the Charity as a whole in accordance with its objects

No such ad hoc donation was received in 2024-25

3) Trustees' Remuneration
No remuneration was paid to Trustees

Approved and signed on behalf of the Trustees

Ventnor Friends of Wight Horticulture
CIO number 1174751
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the Year ended 30 September 2025

	2025 Unrestricte Funds £	2025 Restricte Funds £	Sub totals £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Funds £	Sub totals £
RECEIPTS						
Subscriptions	3,610			3,610	*4,350*	
General Donations	1,026			1,026	*1,714*	
Donations (Education/Bursary)		276		276	*0*	
Legacies				-	*500*	
HMRC (Gift Aid Reclaim)	325			325	*1,185*	
			5,237			*7,749.00*
Income from charitable activites						
Café botanique	1,127			1,127	*1,366*	
Water Mill visit	290			290		
Decorations workshop	155			155		
Soup lunch	231			231		
Garden visit	24			24		
Other					*5,314*	
Total			1,827			*6,680.00*
Adverts in Ventnorensis	70			70	*35*	
Interest	949	77		1,026	*1,019*	
Total Income	**7,807**	**353**		**8,160**	***15,448***	
EXPENDITURE						
Staging events	1,029			1,029	*5,333*	
Ventnorensis	930			930	*1,837*	
Website and IT	680			680	*811*	
Trustee & Officers Insurance	653			653	*552*	
Public Liability	80			80	*80*	
Donations to VBG	-			-	*13,223*	
Subscriptions	137			137	*160*	
Legal & Professional fees	400			400	*1,096*	
General management costs	392			392	*158*	
Total Expenditure	**4,301**	**-**		**4,301**	***23,250***	
Surplus (Deficit) for Year	3,506	353		3,859	*-7,802*	
Balance of Funds Brought Forward				67,060	*77,864*	
Balance of Funds Carried Forward	**45,414**	**25,504**		**70,919**	***67,060***	