**Presentation by MCAA**

**to the Mulbarton Parish Council Annual Meeting**

**Monday 7 April 2025 (19:30 Hannover Gardens)**

I am Nick Martin and I am the Treasurer for the Mulbarton Community Allotment Association (MCAA). Our Chairman, Roger Robinson was due to speak but he is unable to be with us this evening and he has asked me to make this presentation in his place. MCAA’s other officer is the Secretary Sue Robinson.

I would like to start by thanking the Mulbarton Parish Council for their support in setting up the MCAA and their generosity in charging only a nominal rent for the first two years until the end of December 2026.

I would also like to thank the Mulbarton Parish News for their very kind grant to cover initial setting up costs including materials for raised beds and for topsoil.

Thanks too for donations of tools from well-wishers.

MCAA has its own Constitution in which its stated aims include:

* To help develop a sense of community;
* To educate allotmenteers in the art of gardening;
* To allow allotmenteers to sample hands-on allotment work without a commitment to a full-size plot;
* To donate any excess produce to local charities or community organisations.

Membership is open to anyone who:

* Is 18 years or older;
* Is resident in Mulbarton;
* Any other person at the discretion of the Committee (eg residents of neighbouring villages).

So far we have built 8 raised beds, most of which are now filled with topsoil. We have a “Community Day” next Saturday (12 April) when we shall start to sow some seeds and plant seedings for this year’s harvest. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Our plans for the future include attempting to get rid of the couch grass and building more raised beds, thus increasing the plantable area for this year or for winter crops.

We also hope to establish a “leisure area” with seating and flowers; and maybe even a barbeque.