Leominster Allotment Association meeting
Wednesday 13th July 2016, 7.00pm, at the Town Council Offices, Leominster.

Committee members present: Lesley Marsh (Chair), Cathy Fewlass, Steve Gallimore, Gill Murdoch, Viv Pearson. **Others present**: K Price
Minutes: Christine Conlon **Apologies:** J Braithwaite, J Lacey, C Preece, R Wall

Items	**Actions**
Minutes from previous meeting, 11/5/16 – The minutes were approved.	
Correspondence – none repoted.	
Matters arising • **The rota for weeding and taking care of the Community Plot** – this was put into the Community Shed. Whilst some volunteers have put their names down to help and are undertaking the tasks, these are not enough to cover the work needed. Others are needed to put themselves forward to help, if the plot is to be kept and not have to be returned to the council for renting out. There are two sheds and a greenhouse on the plot for communal use. It was decided to review the situation regarding the Community plot on a date after the A.G.M. • **The 10th Anniversary Barbeque** - discussed on 16th June and it has been advertised. Preparation at 3pm, the Barbeque starts at 4pm.	All to note
Site inspections of plots • Plots were inspected by Ray Wall and Julie Debbage, Environmental Services Supervisor/Site Manager for the allotments. • Letters were sent out to those unworked/weedy plots and work has been done to improve the plots, including those which needed attention last time. • There has been interest in renting plots, therefore now a short waiting list.	
Quarterly Meeting of the West Midland Region of the National Allotment Society – A.G.M. at the Forbury, Saturday August 6th, 2pm. • The Leominster Allotment Association is hosting this at the Forbury. Dr Keith Ferguson will give a talk entitled "Growing and Storing Vegetables", based almost entirely on his own experiences and techniques. • Refreshments - tea and cake. • **All plotholders are welcome**	
Large Composting Bins • Julie Debbage is to organise a visit to Bisley in Gloucestershire to gain knowledge and methods for this project. • There are signs on the compost bins requesting no additions to the bins, before the Bisley visit. Information gained will be used to manage this facility. • A number of black bags, full of leaves and other material, await composting	

at the site, which is to be dealt with by Environmental Services staff.	
Site problems The gate: • The gate lock didn't work but this has now been fixed. • Lesley noticed the gate was left wide open at the end of the day. Also, on other occasions, early morning members have found that the gate is closed but has not been locked at the end of previous day, with the last person out not locking up. • There have been some thefts of produce and any such incidents should be reported to the police and to the Town Council (Julie Debbage). **For security everyone should lock themselves 'in' and lock themselves 'out' of the site, as all members have a key for this purpose.**	All members to note
Barbeque at the allotments - 10th anniversary - Saturday 23rd July, 4pm. • To celebrate the 10th anniversary of Leominster allotments, the Town Council has donated £250 towards the barbeque. • The barbeque is for all plotholders. • Setting up at 3pm, the barbeque starts at 4pm. • Approximately 50 to attend. • Chris Preece to order and collect the meat from Quarry Farm (50 burgers and 100 sausages), though if requested, Lesley said she could do this. • There will be tea and coffee, but people can bring their own drinks. • Cathy to check with Ray about shed key and check supplies of tea & coffee. • Cathy and Jane will be responsible for bread order. • Lesley – onions and sauces. • Milk and sugar will be needed. • There will be vegetarian food, in the form of salads. • Kitchen rolls, bin/recycling bags also needed. • Viv suggested having separate recycling bags for glass, plastic, paper and food waste/ landfill, Cathy will make signs denoting in which bin to put rubbish. Last year, volunteers had to separate out the rubbish by hand to ensure it was recycled, which was a most unpleasant task. • To keep records straight, remember to keep receipts for Steve Gallimore, who will need to report back to the Town Council about what was spent. • Another BBQ has been donated (will it need a gas bottle?). This could be used by someone for barbequing their own items e.g. vegetarian food.	C Preece / Lesley to action Cathy and Jane to organise
Diary Dates • **Barbeque** - at the allotments on **Saturday 23rd July, 4pm**. • **National Allotment Society reg. meeting** at the **Forbury 6th August 2pm.** • **Leominster Allotment Association A.G.M.** – The Grange, **Wednesday 24th**	

August 7pm. • **Apple Fair** – The Priory, **Saturday October 15th**.	
Any Other Business • **Edging around Community flower beds** – This is a safety issue so the council is paying for wood to be installed at the edges. Julie Debbage to action purchase of scaffold planks. Ray to be asked to help with installation. • **Membership list** – Steve Gallimore queried numbers of paid up members and is to check if all LAA membership fees have been collected. • **Kings Seeds** – Christine to check with John Braithwaite if the catalogues will be distributed at this year's A.G.M. • **Allotment Judge** – An allotment judge, who has agreed to assess the allotments, comes from a National Trust property, The Weir Gardens in Hereford.	Steve to action Christine to action
The next meeting is on Wednesday 14th September, 7pm, Town Council offices, Leominster. Please bring your copy of the minutes with you to the meeting – thank you.	

Agenda

- Approval of minutes
- Correspondence
- Matters arising from the last minutes (unless the item is already on the agenda)
- Site inspections and plots
- Barbeque report
- A.G.M. report
- Site problems
- Apple Fair preparation
- Diary dates
- Any other business
- Date and venue of next meeting
- Meeting close