

Leominster Allotment Association meeting

Wednesday 4th July 2018, 7.00pm in the Town Council Offices, Corn Square, Leominster.

Committee members present: Gill Murdoch (Chair), B Hirschmann, J Lacey, V Pearson, I Wilkins.

Others present: J Debbage. **Apologies:** J Braithwaite. **Minutes:** Christine Conlon.

<p>Minutes from previous meeting, 2/5/2018 – approved.</p>	
<p>Gill announced that Committee member, Viv Pearson, has decided to step down from the Committee with immediate effect. Gill expressed the Committee's appreciation to Viv for the work she has done, both for the Leominster Allotment Association and the allotments, since the beginning. Gill said, and those present agreed, that it would be very sad for the Committee to see her go.</p>	
<p>Correspondence Gill distributed copies of The Allotment Magazine at the meeting.</p>	
<p>Matters arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website – Christine removed the majority of old minutes from the website 'Documents' page. The removed minutes will be added to a new 'Archive' page linked from the 'Documents' page, when it is set up. • Website recipes – these can be found on the following website page http://leominsterallotments.org.uk/home/food-recipes/ Click on the words 'seasonal recipes' on the 'About' page. • Gate lock – The gate lock is still stiff, so Julie will ask Ray for the special lock oil. 	<p>Christine to action</p> <p>Julie to action</p>
<p>Site inspections, plots and site problems The plots were inspected by Julie, Jane and Gill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plots – there are 12 vacant plots with one being let this week. • On-site leak (plot 51) – Julie is waiting to hear back from Welsh Water, who have confirmed the leak isn't mains water or sewage. It could be water from a highway drain. In the current hot weather, the water has dried up. • Rats – these are thought to be encouraged by access to food which has been put out for wild birds and for the chickens. • Strimming – The vacant plots have now been strimmed. • Compost bins – Plastic/inappropriate items are still found in the large bins. • Wildlife camera – it was suggested that a wildlife camera is set up at the allotments, for those interested in wildlife. • Tree-bog – this has now been repaired and Julie has added hand soap and a toilet roll holder to secure the toilet roll in use. The supply of sawdust has now finished, but pet shops supply sawdust when more is needed. • Property marking – at the allotments on Saturday 18th August, 2pm onwards. • Memorial bench – Julie/Town Council will get a bench as a memorial to plot holder John Moss, who died recently. The LAA will obtain a plaque, wording still to be decided. The bench will be sited next to the Community shed. • Gate post - a post is needed to stop the gate from swinging wide open. • Gate sign – "Close and lock the gate on entrance and exit." Julie to arrange. 	<p>Committee to action the plaque</p> <p>Julie to action</p>
<p>General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our GDPR policy is on the LAA website on the 'Documents' page. • Christine sent out 46 emails to members, explaining our GDPR policy. 38 members replied positively and 8 have yet to reply. 	

<p>Summer Barbecue report</p> <p>The Barbecue was more like a picnic, as only a couple of members used the gas barbecue. Gill cleaned parts of the barbecue. The Property Marking was cancelled. Shade was needed, so the pop-up gazebo will be used next time (currently stored in the Cube). If one is held next year, it will be advertised as a 'Bring and Share' picnic.</p>	
<p>LAA Facebook</p> <p>This is an open Facebook which is administered by Ian Wilkins and Chris Preece. Our allotment photographs can be added to the Facebook page.</p>	
<p>Tidying the Cube</p> <p>This will take place on Saturday 18th August, from 2pm onwards, while the marking is being carried out at the Community shed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie needs 3 x tables for Leominster in Bloom judging (they may be in the Cube). 	
<p>Diary Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property marking – Saturday 18th August, from 2pm onwards, at the allotment Community shed. Members will use the opportunity to tidy the Cube while the marking is being carried out on that day. • Harvest Supper – Friday 5th October, 7pm at Grange Court. • Next LAA meeting – Wednesday 5th Sept, 7pm, at the Town Council Offices. 	
<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allotment competitions - Bridget suggested that we hold allotment competitions e.g. prize vegetable competition (funniest, largest etc), with allotment members as judges. End of September seems favourable. Bridget will explore this idea. • Allotment judge – Julie says that our allotment judge is still keen to continue. • Signatory - Jane will remove Viv as a signatory, as she has stepped down. • Committee members – as we are getting short of Committee members, please ask around to see if anyone would be interested in serving on the Committee. • Community plot – As the plot requires maintenance by a community spirited allotment member and we are relying on the same people each time, Jane suggested turning it back into a rentable plot or mini beds. This idea will be explored and ideas brought to the next meeting 	<p>Bridget to action</p> <p>Jane to action</p> <p>All to note</p> <p>All to note</p>
<p>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th September, 7pm, Town Council offices, Leominster. Please print a copy of the minutes for the meeting</p>	

Agenda for meeting, 5/9/2018

- Approval of minutes
- Correspondence
- Matters arising from the previous minutes (unless item is already on the agenda)
- Site inspections, plots and site problems
- Property marking and Cube report
- Memorial bench – inscription on plaque
- Harvest Supper - preparations
- Diary dates
- Any other business
- Date and venue of next meeting
- Close of meeting