

**Leominster Allotment Association meeting**

Wednesday 7th November 2018, 7.00pm in the Town Council Offices, Corn Square, Leominster.

**Committee members present:** Gill Murdoch (Chair), J Lacey, I Wilkins.

**Others present:** D Arkell, J Debbage, K Marriott, E Meek, V Pearson.

**Minutes:** Christine Conlon.

Minutes from previous meeting, 5/9/2018 – approved.	Actions
<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>1. Christine received an email enquiring about allotments - forwarded to J. Debbage.</p> <p>2. Confirmation of LAA membership/affiliation from NAS (NSALG), received.</p>	
<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Website</b> – Christine sorted the archive of Minutes and AGMs. Click on the year on the ‘Documents’ page <a href="http://leominsterallotments.org.uk/documents/">http://leominsterallotments.org.uk/documents/</a></li> <li>• <b>Gate locks</b> – Oiled. Julie will give the oil to Gill to store in the Community shed.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Harvest Supper and Awards – Report</b></p> <p>Thanks went to the following people - and many others not mentioned here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cathy and Jane - flowers on tables.</li> <li>• Christine and Gill for providing quizzes. Gill for designing the poster.</li> <li>• Providers of raffle prizes, including the Mayor. The raffle took £44.</li> <li>• All those who brought food for all to share. Once again, the food was excellent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julie to send award-winners list to Christine for website.</li> <li>• Julie will book the room at The Grange for <b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019.</b></li> <li>• Jane will contact the Allotment Judge and deliver a ‘Thank you’ gift.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Julie to action Julie to action Jane to action</p>
<p><b>Site inspections, plots and site problems</b></p> <p>The plots are inspected once a month – usually the first week of the month. The plots, water arrangements and perimeter are always checked.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gates closed</b> – The inner gates have been closed to prevent the ground being churned by vehicles at this wet time of year. If access is required, contact Julie.</li> <li>• <b>Equipment</b> – Julie to contact Western Power re: equipment left at the allotments.</li> <li>• <b>Water</b> – Has been turned off, in time for winter.</li> <li>• <b>Vacant plots</b> – Just 4 plots are empty this time.</li> <li>• <b>Possible free plots</b> – Two overgrown plots might be offered free, for one year, to ensure they are cultivated. Contact J. Debbage, Town Council Offices for details.</li> <li>• <b>Pest control</b> – ‘Finds’ have slowed down, which shows an improving situation.</li> <li>• <b>Hedges</b> – Top and bottom hedges have been cut.</li> <li>• <b>Compost Bins</b> – The council is reclaiming its compost bin area, and taking down the bins. Julie will arrange for the area to be tidied up, when time allows. Compost from the site is to be piled up for allotment holders. Posts to be recycled, perhaps for mini-plots.</li> <li>• <b>Locking the Gates</b> - Christine will put a note on the website to remind people to lock themselves in and out of the allotments.</li> </ul>	<p>Christine to action</p>
<p><b>LAA Membership Fee discussion</b></p> <p>If the £7.50 LAA membership fee was incorporated into the annual rental, ploholders could opt in or opt out of paying it. Jane will check back in the documents to see what the previous discussions were about this issue.</p>	<p>Jane to action</p>

<p><b>Leominster in Bloom 2019</b> and/or It's <b>Your Neighbourhood Awards 2019</b></p> <p>If we take part in It's Your Neighbourhood 2019, a portfolio will need to be made. Ian has offered to take photographs of the allotments in the different seasons. The work needs to be completed by the 1st week of July.</p> <p>The portfolio will go to the judges before they come to see the plots. Afterwards, the portfolio will be updated so they can judge it.</p> <p>The committee will decide at the January 2019 meeting, whether to participate in the competitions. Decide which one, or both or not at all.</p>	
<p><b>Diary Dates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leominster in Bloom 2019</b> and/or <b>It's Your Neighbourhood Awards 2019</b> - The theme is "Children's Books". Julie to send the link to Christine so she can send details out to committee members.</li> <li>• <b>Next LAA Meeting – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019, 7pm.</b> (2019 meeting dates: 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan, 6<sup>th</sup> Mar, 1<sup>st</sup> May &amp; AGM, 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 4<sup>th</sup> Sept, 6<sup>th</sup> Nov)</li> <li>• <b>Seed Swap</b> – If we participate, information will need to be circulated in January for the February date. Venue TBC, but The Priory was the venue in 2018, 10 - 2.</li> <li>• <b>Family Fun Day</b> – Yet to decide if we participate.</li> <li>• <b>Leominster in Bloom Plant Fair</b> – Corn Square, Bank Holiday Monday, 27/5/19.</li> <li>• <b>Apple Fair</b> – if we participate, the event is usually in The Priory.</li> <li>• <b>Fruit Tree Pruning – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm.</b> James Bissett, J Debbage prune fruit trees, show pruning techniques at the Community Orchard - Ginhall Green/Linear Park, for National Tree Week. Christine to put on website</li> </ul>	<p>Julie to action</p> <p>Christine to action</p>
<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Memorial Bench</b> – In progress. Plaque wording to be decided. A small event will be held.</li> <li>• <b>Sign needed</b> – Dawn suggested we get a sign to advertise the free produce. Also, a table/metal frame is needed as the old swap table has disappeared.</li> <li>• <b>Messages received</b> - Ian had two messages via the LAA Facebook. A person requires a delivery of manure. A person has a greenhouse for sale - £100. Ian will put a notice on the board about them.</li> <li>• <b>Article</b> – Christine gave Julie an article to help publicise the allotments.</li> <li>• <b>Compost Bins</b> – Julie to check if there are any plastic compost bins on offer.</li> <li>• <b>NAS code</b> – Christine to check if she has the current code for the NAS website.</li> </ul>	<p>Julie to action</p> <p>Christine to action</p>
<p><b>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 7pm, Town Council offices, Leominster.</b> Please print off and bring a copy of the minutes with you to the next meeting.</p>	

**Agenda for meeting, 2/01/2019**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of minutes</li> <li>• To co-opt new committee members</li> <li>• Correspondence</li> <li>• Matters arising from the last minutes</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site inspections, plots and site problems</li> <li>• Allotment events 2019</li> <li>• Diary dates</li> <li>• Any other business</li> <li>• Date and venue of next meeting then close of meeting</li> </ul> |
|---|---|