

**LEOMINSTER ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION MEETING**  
**HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2010 at THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES at 7.30pm**

**Present** – Denise Kerwood (Chair) David Russell (Deputy Town Clerk) Cathy Fewlass, Vivienne Pearson, Mark Tansley, John Moss, Diane Boone (Secretary)  
**Apologies** - Fanny Howden, Jane Lacey, Liz and David Lovegrove, Libby Welthy

**Minutes of Last Meeting** - These were read and signed by Denise Kerwood.

**Matters Arising** - The talk by John Moss which was to have been held in February had unfortunately to be cancelled. The next talk will be on producing produce for showing by John Abley to be held at The Scout Hut on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

Denise passed round a sample schedule from Orleton Gardening Club so we could decide which classes we would be holding at the Produce Show on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2010. Discussion followed on the type of classes to hold and a full list will be available after John Abley's talk. Denise said she would talk to people at the allotments about the show. John Moss donated a silver cup, which had belonged to his grandfather, as an overall winner's prize. David said he would ask if the show could be held at the Priory.

Denise said that the council had now agreed that dwarf fruit trees could be grown at the allotments. David had contacted Mr Caldicott regarding changing the lease (letter of change required) He said he would ring Mr Caldicott again and Denise thanked him for all his help in this matter.

There is to be a visit to a compost toilet 'in situ' at Wigmore Rolls on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March between 10 – 12.30pm.

The dates of the next Leominster Allotment Association meetings at the Town Council Offices had to be changed from a Tuesday to a Wednesday. Therefore the dates to be changed were Wed 5<sup>th</sup> May (not Tues 4<sup>th</sup> May) and Wed 7<sup>th</sup> July (not Tues 6<sup>th</sup> July).

David said he could get a group called 'Community Payback' to help tidy the site and possibly help some individuals with digging.

Naomi was willing to get the children from Leominster Infants School to be involved on the Open Day. A treasure hunt was suggested.

The summer trip had not yet been planned as it was hoped we could go to Garden Organics at Ruyton but the schedule was not yet ready so it was decided that we would wait a bit longer.

Denise said that she hoped we would enter the Neighbourhood Scheme again this year as we had won a merit last year. She said there needs to be greater involvement with the community.

John Moss said he would seek sponsorship from various shops in town and asked if Jane would go with him.

**Date of Next Meeting** Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

**No minutes were found, recording the May 2010  
Leominster Allotment Meeting.**

**Also, no minutes have been found, recording the 2010 AGM.**

Leominster Allotment Association Meeting

Date: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2010 19.30  
Location: Talbot Hotel Leominster  
Chair: Denise Kerwood  
Attendees: Lesley Marsh (LM), Jessica Marsh (JM), Burt Gwilliams (BG),  
Verley Gwilliam (VG), Fanny Howden (H), Stephanie Clewer(SC),  
Kristine Clewer(KC), Mark Clewer (MC), Cathy Fewlass (CF), Jane Lacey (JL).  
Apologies: Liz Lovegrove, David Lovegrove, Diane Broome

1. **Tree Bog Toilet:**

The construction date has been set as the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010. The location is going to be on the first car park almost where the old chemical toilet is situated providing there are no objections by the end of this week. There have been no objections received so far. Wye Wood has done a site visit and found that the existing chemical toilet can be moved, JL stated she was not sure of the advantages of keeping the chemical toilet as it was paid on a monthly basis from the allotment holders rent and if it was to be removed it would be a cost saving, DK will put in a proposal to David Russell.

2. **Pumpkin and Marrow Day:** 25<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at 14.00 Venue: Allotments

LM and JM stated that there is going to be an issue with the refreshments as both of them were away that day, DK stated that she was able to bring the equipment for the tea making and CF stated she has squash and biscuits left over from the open day that she would be able to bring. JM suggested it might be an idea to keep it simple as the numbers attending were not known. FH and Jim will be putting up the marquee on Saturday morning.

John Braithwaite is providing the equipment for measuring the marrows and will also be judging. Entries will be open on the day, and the judging will be at 15.00. There will be prizes, CF will organise.

3. **Harvest Supper & Awards:** 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at 19.30 Venue: Priory Leominster

The facilities at the priory are limited so people are reminded they will need to bring their own cutlery. Currently the numbers agreed to arrive are 26, this will possibly rise to 40 with guests. Allotment holders with odd number plots are to bring deserts and allotment holders with even number plots are to bring main courses, CE suggested that as funds are healthy guests could be greeted with a complimentary drink such as mulled cider which she agreed to organise. FH is willing to help with the dressing of the tables and the priory, she will provide the napkins and table cloths. FH asked what time access would be available to arrange the set up, DK said she would confirm. CE will talk to John Braithwaite in regard to raffle prizes. It was agreed that the quiz was a success last year and that something similar will be arranged. SC suggested some evening entertainment, possibly singers. She has a few contacts and could arrange something, she will report back to DK. DK will arrange for a poster to be put up.

**4. Apple Fair: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2010 10.00am Venue: Priory Leominster**

The Allotment holders had a stall last year and it was a great success which raised a number of funds, therefore it was proposed to run again this year. Any contributions of jams and chutneys are welcome. DK will provide the Allotment Association labels. Volunteers are need for allocated time slots to run the stall. DK will arrange a poster to advise the need for volunteers.

**5. Biodynamic Talk: 9th November 2010 19.30 Venue: Scout Hut Leominster**

JL raised a concern that these talks have not been well attended and were they worth running? DK suggested opening it up to invite our Allotment Association friends to help boost numbers.

**6. Future Plans:**

KC suggested running a quiz night as a fund raiser before Christmas, KC said she was willing to try and organise one.

JL is looking into the possibility of having a canopy as a permanent structure on site, but will be able to provide more information in October after speaking to Burgoynes.

**7. AOB:**

FH has the number of a Horse manure suppliers who are willing to supply the allotments on a Sunday starting at 08.00 and then running all day. DK agreed to send a flyer out with contact details to all allotment holders.

KC raised the concern regarding security on the site. DK stated that CCTV was not possible due to the site needing to be lit for it to effective. It was agreed that the gate on to the cattery lane should be guarded with corrugated iron similar to the gate next to it loading on to the road to help stop easy access.

LM raised concern regarding allotments that are not being attended to; bearing in mind the allotments themselves have a waiting list. KC also expressed concern as she is neighboured by two such plots. DK explained the procedure that her and David Russell adhere to in these circumstances but agreed to review this with David Russell.

Next Meeting : Wednesday 3rd November in the Town Council Offices on West Street at 7.30pm.

# **Leominster Allotment Association Meeting**

**Wednesday 3rd November 2010**

**7.30**

## **Town Council Office**

**Present: David Russell, Denise Kerwood, Vivienne Pearson, Cathy Fewlass, Jane Lacey, Kris Clewers, Stephanie Clewers, Bernard Preece, Diane Boone.**

**Apologies: Mark Clewer, David and Liz Lovegrove.**

### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

**The minutes were agreed and signed**

### **Matters Arising**

- **The Tree Bog is now in place and is generally agreed to be an asset to the site. DR told the meeting the chemical toilet company had been told that the contract had ended and that they should soon be moving it. DK suggested there should be a launch and DR said he would arrange this at a later date. DL intends to send information about the TreeBog to "Direct", a magazine circulated around councils nationally. DR asked if the TreeBog will be insured by LAA. JL will look into this.**
- **DK acknowledged the Pumpkin and Marrow Day was a success but next year it should be broadened to become the Scarecrow, Pumpkin and Sunflower Day and should be held on a Sunday to enable people working on Saturdays to be involved.**
- **Over 50 people attended the Harvest Supper and everyone enjoyed the event which was held this year in The Priory. The Vicar was delighted that we chose the venue and had an enjoyable evening.**
- **The Apple Fair was a successful event and the hard work of people who contributed to the stall added £143 to the association's funds.**
- **The Biodynamic Gardening Talk scheduled for November 9th was cancelled and replaced on the**

**17th November by A Bug Talk, a conversation with beneficial insects.**

### **Security**

**DR displayed several combination padlocks which had been damaged and consequently replaced. The replacement of the locks is becoming costly in terms of price of padlock and DR's time. An association contacted by DR in Devon reported having similar problems. DR has arranged for covert CCTV for the site and he will put an official sign by the entrance to alert people that they may be being videoed. DR said he was open to any suggestions which would increase security. CF and JL agreed to investigate the possibility of having more secure gates made by a local company. KC stated they have had items stolen from their shed and had produce taken from their plot. There is a new Policewoman and a new CSO who have responsibility for the allotments. Incidents should be reported to DR who will relay them to the police.**

*Plus CF said she would contact Crime Prevention officer  
**Compost** - Charles Naylor made site visit 11.11.10.*

**DK said she regretted the failure of the communal composting scheme but was arranging a meeting with Chris Macavoy who will advise how to overcome the difficulties. It was suggested Angela Pendleton and Trish Marsh could also be brought into the discussion. Fanny suggested a group meet regularly to keep the area clear because if the area is clean and tidy it will less likely to be abused.**

### **Bug Talk: 17th November.**

**The talk will be at the Scout Hut. SC suggested we contact local schools. DK will contact Leominster Junior School.**

### **Pub Quiz**

**KC explained the event had been arranged for Wednesday 1st December. There will be teams of up 6 and Alan Hall will organise the questions. Prizes are needed. Teams will need to have declared their interest by 17th November.**

### **Any Other Business**

**DR explained the allotment had become very damp at the bottom of the new site. They have checked for leaks in the**

mains pipe which has been turned off. Les Price and DR checked adjacent field which was found to be very wet near the fence. The field drains were checked and unblocked. Two plots were affected.

DR said next year's Open Garden event will be held on either the first or second weekend of June.

CF said the Regional AGM of the NALGS would be held at Iron Bridge on Saturday 13th November.

DR complimented SC on the singing at the Harvest Supper, the meeting endorsed his appraisal. SC will try to get schoolchildren involved for next year.

**Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 26th January, Chequers, 7.30.**