

## Leominster Allotment Association Update. (Meeting Nov 11th cancelled.)

Hopefully everyone is well and coping with the current situation. The Committee felt that meetings would only be held if necessary, though currently prohibited because of the current lockdown. Consequently, we are just providing an update.

- **Report on The Plant Fayre on Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup>.** This event usually takes place in May but had to be postponed because of COVID-19 restrictions. It was a lovely sunny day and stalls were socially distanced on The Grange. It was well attended with local people and visitors to our area asking questions about the allotments and the produce that was for sale. For many it was an opportunity to socialise (following the current COVID-19 guidelines). Many thanks to all those who contributed, to Jane Lacey who donated various jams and Viv Pearson for her help in running the stall. £68 profit was made and paid into Leominster Allotment Association account.
- **Water pipe repair** – The shattered waterpipe has been replaced and it is hoped that this will have solved the flooding issues experienced by a number of plot holders near to this area.
- Currently, there are **7 vacant plots** and **18 people on the waiting list**. It is hoped that prospective plot holders can visit the site after lockdown, see the vacant, signed plots and choose which one they wish to take on.
- **Kings Seed Catalogue** – Some plot holders have already requested and taken their catalogue from the Community Greenhouse. There is a wide selection of seeds at very reasonable prices. If you have not already had a catalogue then please be aware that time is running out as the first seed order is due by November 19<sup>th</sup>. Early orders generate revenue for LAA. Later orders can also be placed by December 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Plot holders are welcome to take a copy of the interesting and informative **Allotment Association Magazine** from the Community Garden greenhouse.
- **The Ginhall Lane hedge has been topped** and sided and the team have cut the inside of the hedge to allow more light for the plots adjacent to this area.
- **The Council have made a start on clearing their recycling area.** They have already had a bonfire but need to have another one to completely tidy the area. Thank you for your patience and understanding regarding this matter.
- Due to COVID-19 restrictions it is felt that **the toilet should remain closed** but the Council aim to have a member of staff researching information regarding an accessible toilet for installation in 2021.

**Community Garden and greenhouse.** Thank you to the plot holders who have helped develop this area by donating unused or spare compost bins, planks to replace rotten edging and plant cuttings. Thank you to Hilary for donating pond liner and Richard Shakespeare for assisting with the construction of the “wildlife pond” situated at the far end. The plan is to plant more herbs among the flowers and add a greater variety of plants to provide colour from spring until autumn.

The area that was dominated by raspberry bushes will have strawberries and some vegetables in it.

It is hoped that plot holders will make use of the Community Greenhouse to grow their own seeds as this was sadly redundant last year with a flourishing crop of thistles in it!

- Mark Culbert, Environmental Services Officer, who helped to manage the Allotment site for the Town Council, has been offered new employment elsewhere and a person to replace his position has not yet been appointed. We look forward to working with his successor.

## 2021 Proposed Committee Meetings and events (subject to COVID-19 restrictions)

- **February seed swap**
- **May Plant Fayre**
- **May AGM-Wednesday May 5<sup>th</sup>**
- **Harvest supper – Friday October 8<sup>th</sup>**