



Leominster Allotment Association

Minutes of Meeting 7pm Wednesday, November 6th 2024

Leominster Town Council Art Gallery

Present: Kay West, Co-chair, Stuart Sidebotham, Leominster Grounds, Coral Lemm, Sue Morris, Secretary, Mary Locock, Penny Fear, Hilary Tuite, Membership Secretary and Treasurer, Heather Davies		
1.	Minutes	The minutes of the last meeting were circulated, read, and approved.
2.	Matters Arising	Kay and Hilary reported that they had attended the Its Your Neighbourhood awards lunch and ceremony at Holme Lacy in September, which was a pleasant occasion.
3.	Membership and Treasurer's Report	<p>Membership still stands at 26, the same as at the last meeting.</p> <p>The balance at the bank currently stands at £1529.46.</p> <p>Income received since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">£20 donation from Jane Lacey£10 donation from Jane Sharp for dried teasels supplied by Heather Davies£40.60 proceeds from Harvest Supper Raffle£50.56 profit from Plant Fair <p>Costs incurred</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">£10 stall rent for Leominster in Bloom Plant Fair£35 to Philpotts Gift Cards for Allotment Awards£11.03 to Morrison's for items for Harvest Supper£62 to B&Q for new wheelbarrow <p>Petty Cash is £94.58, some of which will be used for fresh planting for the flower tubs at the allotment site.</p> <p>The Business Banking Resolution Service is closing on 13th December 2024. This is a service that helps eligible businesses resolve disputes with their banks. We have fortunately not had to use their services.</p> <p>Lloyds Bank have informed us that they will be changing our account to a Community Account. For this, we will be charged £4.25 per month making an annual total of £51. There will also be charges for cheques paid out and depositing cash, to start on 04.01.2025. With our current membership of 26, our income from fees is £117 annually. The annual cost of our website is £85 which leaves only £32 for other expenses.</p> <p>Hilary and Kay are to investigate whether the Nationwide or Post Office would be a better option for our account.</p>
4.	King's seed order	Orders should be taken to Jane Lacey's house Rockhaven on Hereford Road or delivered to the post box in the Community shed by 8 th November



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5.	Site matters	<p>Stuart reported that the waiting list is down to 10 and the waiting time is now much reduced. There is one vacant plot, where drainage works have taken place. Stuart's team are to replace the fence there. The plot is now much drier but the surrounding track is quite wet due to the heavy rainfall last month. The area will be monitored.</p> <p>The outstanding jobs – relocating the gate and fencing the end of the wildlife area – have been completed. The water has been turned off and the gates to the tracks closed early because of the extremely wet weather.</p>
6.	Autumn Plant Fair	<p>Many thanks to everyone who donated plants and produce. The weather stayed dry until about 2pm. The amount raised was £52.56.</p>
7.	Harvest Supper	<p>As usual, an enjoyable event with good food, a quiz, and a raffle. Lesley and David Pritchard announced the allotment prizes and prize winners of the potato and sunflower competitions. Unfortunately, not many of the prize winners attended. Thanks to Lesley and David for their hard work.</p>
8.	Future Events	<p>The RSPB annual bird watch takes place in January. Kay will put observation sheets in the community shed for anyone who would like to take part. As rat sightings are down, bird feeders can be put up again for the winter.</p> <p>Coral explained that the response to the Christmas Tree Festival in the Priory was overwhelming so we did not apply quickly enough to get one. However, we can decorate a tree in the Tourist Office with any dolly peg scarecrows/angels etc that people may have made and with other natural items.</p>
9.	Manure delivery	<p>Still waiting for a response about this. Sue will try to arrange a bulk delivery of manure.</p>
10.	Wildlife sightings	<p>A sick hedgehog was taken to Shobdon but sadly died. Various birds and a vole have been seen.</p>
11.	Dates of future meetings	<p>January 8th 2025, March 5th, May 7th AGM all to be held in the Council Art Gallery at 7pm, July 6th, September 7th 2pm at the allotments, November 12th 7 pm at the Council Art Gallery.</p>
12	AOB	<p>The new communal wheelbarrow is currently in the community shed awaiting security marking.</p> <p>Stuart will contact Hilary about bringing the benches she wishes to donate down to the site.</p>
<p>Kay thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8pm</p>		