



Leominster Allotment Association

Minutes of Allotment association

Wednesday March 11th

Present: Hilary Tuite, treasurer, Heather Davies, Mary Locock, Penny Fear, Jane Thorley-Watkins co-chair, , Andy Watkins, Kay West Chair, Stuart Sidebotham, Council Grounds Supervisor		
1	Minutes	Minutes of the last meeting were circulated, read, and approved
2	Matters arising	Due to personal circumstances, Hilary was unable to find out which person had paid their membership by BACS without submitting their details on a membership form. Stuart will check with Sarah (admin) and find out the details
3	Membership & Treasurer's Report	<p>There are still 24 paid-up members.</p> <p>The balance at the bank stands at £1419.95. The cheque for King's seeds for £31.88 has finally been presented. Many thanks to Jane Lacey for sorting this out after the hiccup with the Christmas post this year</p> <p>Council has agreed that Association membership forms will continue to be issued with the annual rental contracts. In addition, Council is willing to also collect membership fees on behalf of the Association but cannot put this money through their books. Robert West will provide preprinted envelopes for the membership fee and these will be held in a special box at the Council Offices for collection by the Association Treasurer.</p> <p>Membership fee is now £8 with a 50p surcharge for payment by cheque. Sarah will amend the membership form</p> <p>Hillary will close the books at the end of this month. Lloyds Bank has now closed but Gail will still provide some customer service at the banking hub.</p>
4	Site Matters	<p>Stuart can now ask for quotes for smoothing out and repairing the pothole at the entrance gate.</p> <p>Funding now in place for security/wildlife cameras. The type Stuart had chosen now unavailable but he will investigate other makes.</p> <p>Oversized trees on plots have been reduced in size by Stuart's team and most of the brush chipped. Some still awaiting chipping. Please do not add your own prunings to this heap but dispose of them yourself.</p> <p>There is no money available at present to replace the plastic water tank on the top track.</p> <p>Water will be turned on before Easter but will have to be turned off if frost is forecast.</p>



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		One bat box needs to be repositioned. Mary has a woodpecker box to be sited at the allotments
5	Padlock issues	Stuart has found a key which works well so has made good copies to give out to new plot holders and anyone whose key is defective.
6	New Officers appeal	Hilary wishes to stand down as treasurer and membership secretary. Sue would also like to stand down as secretary if possible. Various people will be contacted to see if they could take on these roles. Jane would do Membership Sec. and will liaise with Hilary and Kay
7	Farmers' Market	Jane suggested doing a car boot sale rather than a Farmers' Market which needs public liability insurance. April 26 th suggested as a possible date. Please grow on extra seedlings for sale. Kay will talk to John, the organiser of Leominster car boot sale.
8	Allotment web-site	Sue has not yet been able to meet with Chris Preece to discuss this. Jane suggested setting up an allotment email address to improve communication. Could this be added to the web-site? Admins for the allotment Facebook page need to be updated. Sue will contact Claire who is the current admin but no longer has an allotment.
9	Flower tubs	Tubs currently looking good with bulbs.
10	Cube Mural	Marine plywood for a mural on the cube has been procured and stored. Thanks to Leominster Building Supplies for delivering and giving a generous discount. Kay and Penny to come up with a design It was suggested to ask ECHO or the Art Dept at Earl Mortimer College for help in doing the painting.
11	AOB	We have entered "It's Your Neighbourhood" award scheme again. The judges, Lesley and David Pritchard will be asked to come at a date convenient to them in the last two weeks in July. BBC Maestro are interested in filming at the allotment site but the Council are not able to give permission until we know what they have in mind.
Kay thanked the attendees and closed the meeting at 8.30.pm		