Information for All Plot Holders at Alwins Field & Weston Avenue Allotments

(Issue No. 8 - March 2023)



Leighton Linslade Allotment Association Group



http://www.llaa.org.uk/



...The Chair's Scribble...(from our new Chair, Jim Whitaker)

It is with the greatest of pleasure that I have been co-opted back onto the committee as your new chairperson, I was the original chair of the LLAA when it was formed to save the allotments at Weston Avenue, from closure, due to possible planning applications.

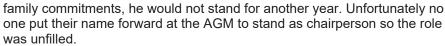
I am looking to work with the elected committee to improve our allotments, and with the Town Council, to keep as many Allotments that are not being used to be allocated or re-allocated to the many people that are on the waiting list.

If anyone would like to see me my plot number is WA19A, and where I would be happy to have a chat with anyone about any allotment matters.

Jim

New LLAA Chairperson

Prior to the 2022 AGM our then chairperson, Paul Frost, had already decided that, due to



However since then thankfully, as you can read above, Jim Whitaker has volunteered his services as Chairperson and we are very grateful that he has now filled the position.

A huge thank you to both Paul and Jim as outgoing and incoming chairs.

Sadly Janice & Stephen Bennett also decided not to remain committee members and we thank them for all their hard work on behalf of the LLAA.

Welcome To New Plot Holders

It's great to see new plot holders on site and further potential plot holders being shown around by Ian Haynes of Leighton Linslade Town Council.

If you are a new plot holder, welcome, and hopefully you have already, or will, become a member of the LLAA. You'll find a list of committee members and their plot numbers at the bottom of this newsletter if you'd like to have a chat.

Please have a look at our website (link at head of newsletter) where you can find details of the benefits of joining the Association.

Keys

Did you know that your key for the gates at Alwins Field (AF) & Weston Avenue (WA) opens other 'doors'? It provides access to the: -

- toilets and main gates
- AF Community Shed
- · wheelbarrows and trolleys near the main gate at WA
- Louis Place (community shed) at WA
- car park barrier outside WA

However, please remember that when using these facilities and equipment please leave them as you would wish find them and remember to lock up. The wheelbarrows and trolleys at WA should be returned to the gate immediately after use. Finally if your vehicle is locked in the car park at WA, feel free to unlock the barrier but please do lock it again after exiting.

Break Ins

Unfortunately we had a spate of brake-ins over the winter at WA where the perpetrators appeared hell bent on vandalism rather than burglary.

Police were informed and a crime reference issued.

Thankfully these instances are rare, however, they do act as reminder to keep equipment and sheds secure.

Macmillan

The final sum raised last year at the September events was £632. A fantastic effort by organisers, attendees and contributors.

Thankfully contributions are still coming in with new plot holders making donations when they join the LLAA.

Thank you.

Winter Work

Committee members and volunteers have not been idle over the winter months. Some of the things achieved include:-

Composting toilets repaired
Community shed roof at AF repaired
Rubbish around AF Community Shed cleared
Equipment shed provided at AF
Small mower shed provided at AF
Water butts installed at WA toilets
WA notice board repaired
WA trolley repaired



Any Ideas ???

The LLAA has held numerous successful events (weather permitting) over the years including the Macmillan Coffee Mornings, barbeques and tea parties.



It is hoped to hold these events again this year with an early summer tea party, mid summer BBQ and the late summer/early autumn coffee morning.

However, have you got any suggestions as to any events you'd like to see held? If so email your ideas to membership@llaa.org.uk and we'll consider them at forthcoming committee meetings.

Some of the Benefits of LLAA Membership

LLAA Full Members benefit from National Allotment Association (NAS) membership. This provides:-

- Access to the NAS members section of their website (https://www.nsalg.org.uk) which includes helpful resources such as advice clearing and planning an allotment.
- Access to Kings Seeds discount seed scheme
- Quarterly online NAS magazine
 To access the members area you'll find the login name and password on the back of your LLAA membership card.

Full <u>and</u> Associate Members of the LLAA benefit from public liability insurance cover. Details can be found on our website at

http://www.llaa.org.uk/insurance/

Alwins Field Update

The toilet at Alwins Field has been checked to make sure it is functioning correctly and it is cleaned regularly.

The community shed is available again but when the weather improves it will need to be painted.

The garden area by the community shed needs care and attention if anyone is interested.

Plot 25B now belongs to the Town Council for use by The Friends of Leighton-Linslade in Bloom Gardening Group. The aim is to use it to grow on plants, especially the plants from the barrier boxes in town when the planting is changed. They can then be used in the town's community gardens.

The Alwins allotment site now looks much tidier and plots have been allocated to new allotmenteers. The aim now is to improve the site further. If you need help or can give a hand in any way please do not hesitate to contact the site rep.

Allocation of Vacant/Uncultivated

Leighton Linslade Town Council (LLTC) have inspected both AF & WA and have

taken back a number of plots. They have been clearing vacant plots and letting them out to people on the waiting list. This is good news. Please offer encouragement to the new plot holders and suggest they join the Association.

LLTC will inspect the sites regularly and have stated that they will be strict in their assessment of whether a plot is cultivated.

Your LLAA Committee Members Are:-

If you want to speak to a committee member on site then this is where to find us: -

Barnaby Adams	WA 48A
Peter Bate	WA 77A
Michael Hildreth-Bell	WA 2A
Phil Jones	WA 27B
Avril & Simon Marshall	WA 90A
Mark McGarvie	WA 27A
Rosie Palmer	AF 24A
Rob Salisbury	WA 50A
Jim Whitaker	WA 19A

Or email: - membership@llaa.org.uk