****Milnathort & Kinross Allotments Association

**Committee Meeting**

 March 4th, 2019

1. Matthew welcomed 12 members to the meeting. There were no apologies.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Proposed by Chris, seconded by Robert.
3. Chairs update:
4. First workday a success, seeds were planted for the April Farmers market. Raised beds built for the hardstanding area. Cost of these was £551. 51 considerably less than we have paid previously.
5. Huge thanks to Ross for building these for us.
6. Caulders have now taken over from Dobbies. Matthew had written to the MD introducing us and explaining the aims of the Association. No problems are seen for the foreseeable future, but with 10 years left on our lease Mathew suggested that now might be the time to approach Caulders proposing that we buy the land. This was approved by the committee.
7. Amanda had e mailed to say that the car park will now close at 5.30. Chris to e mail all members to notify them of this.
8. Robert has secured us two tables in the flower tent at the Kinross show.
9. Secretary update:
10. We have two new members, one of them would like a larger plot. He will remain on waiting list until one becomes available.
11. New signs in place and we seem to be getting more visitors, some question of if Kinross in Bloom are obscuring the visibility.
12. Treasurers update:
13. All rents paid except for one member who was quoted the wrong price and one who pays by instalments.
14. Polytunnel rents all paid bar two spaces, but the date for paying these not to end of May. Proposed that in future years this to be moved forward to end of April. Approved.
15. Current balance £4420 which is enough to cover all our outgoings for the year.
16. Scratch cards to be progressed.
17. Not sure if we have received a grant from Persimmon in February, will apply again. A member said that Eon also give local grants, Iain to investigate.
18. Saplings from the forestry commission due to arrive this week, volunteers will be needed to plant them when they arrive.
19. Seed order from Fothergills produced a £14 pay back, Treasurer will do comparison with other companies to see if this can be improved upon next year.
20. Community Garden:
21. Gate to the pond needs to be closed properly. Chris to investigate making it more upright.
22. A questioned was asked of the chair concerning the differences in size of the area within community garden that members have been asked to look after. Matthew explained that everything is flexible and to speak to himself regarding proposed changes.
23. Kinross in Bloom have said we can take as much spent compost as we like.
24. Matthew to make marker signs for community compost and waste bins.
25. A planting budget is required for community garden, but we have free seeds in the hut. Also approach Caulders to ask if we could have any plants they are throwing out. If so, we can post notice saying donated by them.
26. AOB:
27. Derek had met with Trellis, who provided a list of organisations we might contact to become involved with the community garden. However, it seems that we must make more effort to publicise ourselves. Matthew distributed flyers to be posted in local shops etc. Chris proposed that we produce A5 flyers to take to the farmers markets and the Kinross show, to give out. Agreed. Other ideas for raising the profile: Approach the High School, perhaps pupils are looking for voluntary work for Duke of Edinburgh and Queens Award Schemes, Seamab School. Invite florist, wood turner etc. to our next open day for workshops and demonstrations.
28. We need to erect a barrier around the hard-standing area, for safety
29. Caulders had been doing some work on the car park and had left a mound of hard core. Agreed to give them until next meeting before approaching them about it.
30. After thorough investigation Matthew had discovered that we can use the composting toilet! We will need to have it emptied professionally occasionally.
31. Matthew proposed leaving the hut open to make it more useful. Watering rota people asked to open in the morning and close in the evening.
32. Matthew said first aid kit is inadequate and inaccessible. Committee agreed he should buy two to be fixed outside shed and hut.
33. The following tools are needed, trugs, secateurs, a riddle. Iain to procure.
34. Date of next meeting 1st April at the campus
35. Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

**Minutes Approved and Authorised By:**

 **M Gorrie…………………… I Gorrie………………………………………..**

 **Date …01/04/2019………… Date ………01/04/2019…………………**