LAYTON PERMANENT ALLOTMENT

ASSOCIATION

**Association Meeting** Sunday 14th August 2016, onsite

Jacky Stennett(**JS)**Chair, Dave Stennett(**DS**)Treasurer, Sarah Mather, John & Isabel Horn, Adam Mather and Katie, Gail Blackburn, Alan and Liz Westhead, Peter Eccles, Phyllis Duffy.

**JS** opened the meeting at 13.30hrs and welcomed all.

**Apologies**

David and Marge Wignall, Mica and Paulette Goldstone, Dianne Tew, Kathlyn Stevens.

**Minutes of previous meeting** 26/06/2016. The minutes were accepted by the meeting.

**Matters arising** from previous meeting

The solar power supply - is now up and running and is presently on permanent standby. This means the fridge is on. **DS** explained that in this mode you must put a light on (a load) if you wish to use the system. If anyone wants a demonstration of the system DS will be happy to help.

Toilet – **DS** had taken a call from Woo Woo. A man will be coming to inspect the loo the week after next. He will text what day he is arriving. **DS** asked for help in moving the two steel girders by the loo before he arrived. John asked could we not sell them. Enquiries have been made but no takers .A suggestion was made that we put them on Blackpool Buy and Sell, Gail offered to demonstrate.

The Dyke – no reply has yet been received from the Council. **JS** will be pursuing this.

Car Park in front of the Tea Room – **JS** showed the car park sign that Dave Wignall had made. All agreed it was good and Isabel suggested that we also needed a sign for the bottom car park as a car had been scratched recently due to inconsiderate parking.

**Chairperson’s Report**

Nothing – other than Open Day. Grateful thanks go to all who helped make the day a success. Too many to mention individually but particular thanks must go to Sarah Mather for her contribution and the logistics. We made £1758.73 on the day. Expenses came to £132.43. So a net profit of £1626.30.

We give a percentage of our takings to charity, and it is normally to those who help us on the day .In this case the RSPCA Blackpool and Aspired Futures ( a Blackpool based children’s charity). There was £160 to be divided between them .After discussion by the meeting it was decided that £100 should go to Aspired Futures (they made £28.90 with their face painting on the day and had donated this is us) and £60 to RSPCA Blackpool.

**Site Report**

We have new tenants on plot22. Welcome to Adam Mather and Katie. This is becoming a family affair as this makes 3 generations now on site – Gail, Sarah and now Adam.

Regrettably, Ruth Coupe has decided to give up her share of plot14.This has now been taken on by the other joint tenant Michelle Canham.

We have a problem with a large willow tree on the boundary by the dyke. It has multiple trunks and with the recent winds one trunk has come down over the dyke .Inspection of the tree has raised concerns and we will be contacting the Council tomorrow – as trees are their responsibility.

The lightweight strimmer, purchased for the ladies, has packed up. It is beyond repair. Fortunately, John on plot 8 has given us a strimmer (quite lightweight). It needed repair, but thanks to Derrick it is now up and running. We have also put into use the strimmer element of a multi-tool that we were given some time ago.

**Secretary’s** **Report**

None – No secretary

**Treasurer’s** **Report**

**DS** distributed his monthly summary dated 2/8/16..

Masonry paint for the outside back wall of the shelter is needed as it gets damp in winter. The fence by the side of the shelter is to be boarded to hide the gas bottle from public view. Gas bottles in the container need to be stored outside and chained securely.

**AOB**

**JS i**dentified a problem from Open Day. The empty midden filled with water following heavy rain and could not be used on the day. Discussion followed about the best way to solve the problem and concluded that there were two options. Concrete angled so it ran into the drain down the car park or a surface drain through the corner of the midden into the drain in the road. Both options are to be explored and a price obtained for the concrete. A decision to be made at the next meeting.

Locked plots. Access is needed in case of emergencies and for plot inspections. Tenants with locked gates will be asked for a key. These will be stored safely in the container.

The Blackpool Produce Show is to be held here, on site, on Saturday 3rd September. Help is needed on the Friday afternoon from 1.30 to set up the marquees which are all going on the main car park. There will be a produce stall and any donations would be much appreciated. We are opening the Tea Room and it is a big ask but if anybody is willing to bake for this please give us the bills and we will pay for any ingredients. Previous shows have shown a tea room to be very popular.

**JS** said she intended to do a plot inspection in mid – September. She knew there were weedy plots but appreciated that this time of year was difficult for families. **JS** confirmed that plots would be checked for rubbish on this inspection as rubbish clearances had cost us a lot this year. There would be a further plot inspection later in the year. John Horn queried why plot inspections were not done every month as when the Council was in charge**.JS** replied that we were now independent and there was a limit to the time she was prepared to spend on site. Support from the floor was given for the September inspection.

The AGM will be held towards the end of November.

Bees. If anybody is interested please contact either Mica on plot 1 or John on plot 12.

Sarah asked if we could make the meetings a more social occasion. We have a lot of new tenants this year and it would be a good opportunity for them to get to know their neighbours .Agreed, tea and biscuits for everyone at the next meeting on 25th September at 1.30pm.