Jacky Stennett (**JS**) Chair, Dave Stennett (**DS**) Treasurer, Ruth Coupe (**RC**) Sec., Dave Wignall, Sarah Mather, Isabel & John Horn, Gail Blackburn, Lesley Roberts, Christine & Alison Penistone, Jon Baugh, Derrick Walls, Phyllis Duffy, Kevin Bennett, Kathlyn Stevens.

**JS** opened the meeting at 13:00hrs and welcomed all.

**Apologies**

Paulette Goldstone, Elizabeth & Alan Westhead, Shirley Horn, Dianne Tew & Chris Thompson.

**Minutes of previous meeting** 20/03/16 were accepted by the meeting, with the amendment that the given apologies of Christine & Alison Penistone had not been recorded.

**Matters arising** from previous meeting

The gas man returned this week to finish the tea room gas fire, and as can be seen, is working. The gas hob has yet to be finished.

The solar power supply – Work is progressing and the batteries are now being charged. There are some heavy cables that need to be connected and the crimping tool needed for this has been ordered.

A question was asked regarding access to power for charging tools and phones. DS replied that there are sockets provided outside the tearoom, and access to the tearoom, available via the keys in the code lock, to the sockets inside to charge tools and equipment.

JS informed the meeting that everyone will be informed when fully operational and a demonstration of the power supply will be given.

The tea room ceiling needs painting and *volunteers are being sought. Can you paint? Contact the committee if you can help.*

Toilet – ‘water’ level in the tank is rather high, resulting in the toilet not working correctly. It is suspected that the tank is seeping in rain water.

It is planned to dig in a pipe, just below the level of the tank ‘joint’ - to drain rain water from around the tank - into the existing surface drain. The tank will then be emptied (This was done a couple of years ago at a cost of £180) **and the toilet closed (lock code changed) for a week,** to ensure it is working correctly.

**Chairperson’s report**

Again, not a great deal to report this month, still early in the season.

JS had attended two ‘Friends of Kingscote Park’ meetings this month, and an ‘Open Spaces’ meeting.

A new notice board is being erected on Kingscote Park and, the LPAA are to be given ¼ of the display area for our notices. JS will be given a key to the notice board shortly and we will then be able to advertise our events.

We will be having a table at the ‘Friends of Kingscote Park’ ‘Companionship Dog Show’ on the 05 June 2016 to sell items grown at the allotment. An advert for the dog show will be put on our onsite notice board for those interested.

Open Spaces – JS has been invited to attend a guided tour of Marton Mere, where grant money has been spent making improvements and she will provide a report back to this meeting of her visit.

**Site Report**

Site inspection took place at the end of last month, to ensure that work had started on plots. One cultivation notice was issued to plot 47 where no work had apparently taken place.

Plots 22 and 50 have new tenants. Welcome to Kevin Bennett (22) and Dianne Tew & Chris Thompson (50)

Plot 38 has been given up and after an initial ‘clean’, a ‘Man & Van’ was used to clear the remaining rubbish. This was a recommended chap and had the necessary licences to dispose of rubbish i.e. they were not a fly tipping service. This cost £80 which is lower than the cost of a skip and can be recommended.

Plot 38 is a large plot and has never been successfully worked and has now been split into two ½ plots. Yesterday a new tenant has signed up for plot 38b.

The LPAA waiting list – it has always been difficult contacting prospective new tenants, and this year has been made more difficult with the number of plots that had become available. DW reported that there were now 23 names on the waiting list.

JS highlighted to the meeting, that there were a number of trees – fruit and ornamental – currently available at garden centres and stores that are not suitable for growing on an allotment plot. This is because they fruit at the top of the tree and grow too large, causing shading for own and neighbouring plots.

Dwarf and semi-dwarf rooted stock are more suitable for growing on allotments.

It is listed in the tenancy agreement the rules regarding trees so, please be aware.

**Secretary’s Report**

RC had found that The Woodland trust gives away 7 trees to communities on application.

JS to check out their application process online.

RC raised awareness of a ‘Permaculture’ introduction course that is to take place in Lytham on 28 & 29 May 2016. Details from Ruth or from the ‘fliers’ circulated.

**Treasurer’s Report**

DS reported that at the AGM of the Association, he had forgotten to bring the audited accounts to the meeting, as it had been a few months ago since they had been audited – the end of 2014/2015 financial year. DS made the audited accounts available to the meeting and agreed to post the auditors ‘sign-off’ on the notice board.

The accounts for 2015/2016 are currently being audited by Peter Mason.

DS distributed his monthly report.

£443.08 had been spent on stock for the shop this month and sales of £280 from the 1st of this month.

The account balance - bank £6920.15 & cash £594. Outstanding bills are for the gas man and when the toilet is cleaned out.

The bank statement is here and available to view.

**AOB**

JS was aware of comments regarding items being left in front of plots next to the allotment road. She explained that the plots toward the top end of the site were reclaimed from the reed beds. When they were open to rent, the council agreed that the strip of land in front of the plots could be used for parking, as there was then no car park at that end of the site. Over time, the fencing at the front of the plots have moved and the given strip being used by the plot holders – for growing or storage.

After a discussion, it was agreed that the plots affected should be re-measured and rents adjusted appropriately – from next year, as parking at the ‘top end’ was now available and the LPAA’s rules on parking in front of plots.

John Horn asked if there was to be a plot inspection this month. JS replied that there will be an inspection in the next few weeks to ensure that plot holders are using their plots appropriately.

JS closed the meeting at 13:27hrs

**Next meeting – Sunday 29th May 2016 at 1pm in the tea-room** followed by an Open-Day planning meeting.

PLEASE DO TRY TO ATTEND AS THIS IS THE MAIN FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS OUTCOME EFFECTS ***ALL*** PLOT HOLDERS

An ‘Open Day planning meeting’ followed the meeting and their minutes not recorded here.