Leytonstone Allotment Holders Co-Operative Association Ltd

(Leytonstone Allotment Holders Association)

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the Quaker Meeting House, Bush Road, E11
Monday 16th March 2026 @ 7.30pm

The meeting commenced at 7.31 pm
ATTENDING : Brian Kavanagh (Chair), Simon Dicey (Treasurer), Linda Kavanagh (Secretary), Ugo Norcaro, David Jump, Sharron Wright, Neil Sinden, Noemie Kybett, Gertrud Moghal.
.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: John Spears (Lease Trustee),

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting
The minutes of the committee meeting of 16/2/26 were unanimously agreed and duly signed.
2. Chair's Business & Site Issues
Social Events 2026
After discussion it was decided to do plant sale on 17th May, the annual show on 30th august, apple day on 11th October and mince pies/mulled wine on 13th December.
Whether to participate in the Wanstead festival was also discussed. Officers felt doing so was very admin heavy for a low return and a considerable level of responsibility to ensure fitness of produce. There were no committee members in a position to lead on the project and while members had always been happy to volunteer to help on the stall on the day, that did not represent a major part of the work involved, part of which by its nature would fall on the Treasurer and Secretary and the rest of which would need to fall on a lead organiser. Some committee members felt a member led attempt should be tried again. A vote was taken on this and there being 7 against, it was decided not to proceed. The committee would look at building member participation in social event organising by concentrating on smaller goals. It was suggested a 'question time' type of event might be run alongside the annual show along with a raffle.
Sixteen people maximum, a mixture of members and their families, had expressed a desire to go on a coach trip to RHS Hyde Hall and this was not enough to make the event feasible. It was suggested that a free visit could be booked and members attend under their own steam. The Secretary would email again to gauge interest in this alternative.
Site Maintenance & projects
The hedging plants had been installed along the boundary fence as planned, along with an amount of dead hedging. Thanks were due to all those who had organised and attended the work party.
The Chair would check, maintain and repair the tank plumbing in time for water turn on at easter. The drinking water supply was on at the portacabin already. Arrangements for rubbish clearance from plots 89a, 90a, 111 and 61 was still needed, but there had not been time to prepare for a skip, so this would be deferred to later in April. A dead tree had fallen from Redbridge land across the fence on the eastern boundary.
4. Treasurer's Report
A report covering the period since the last meeting had been circulated in advance of the meeting.
There were no questions or queries arising.
A water provider switch to Water Plus was under way and should be complete by the end of March which would mean paying at a slightly cheaper rate than with Castle Water. A corporation tax return was now required due to the association's status as a co-operative. Tax was not payable on internal trading, but any monies received from external sources were theoretically subject to tax. It was noted that for very small liabilities HMRC might waive payment.
5. Secretary's report
A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting.
An application had been received for a 10 x 6 greenhouse on plot 119, which was approved.
11 half plots were vacant and would be re-let over coming weekends. The waiting list stood at 78.
6. Any Other Business.
Placing a 'dogs on leads' sign at the start of the main path was discussed, but as one was already displayed on the portacabin, it was decided not to.

7. Date of Next Meeting.
Monday 16th March 2026, at the Quaker Meeting House, 7.30pm

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.44 pm.