

MINUTES OF THE MONTPELIER SQUARE GARDENS  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
THURSDAY, 14th FEBRUARY 1991  
(at 2 Montpelier Square, SW7  
commencing at 6.30 p.m.)

1. NOTICE PERIOD

The Chairman explained that the A.G.M. had been called at slightly less notice than the Committee had hoped to achieve because Westminster Council as the "Collecting Authority" had indicated at a late stage that they needed to know the amount of the precept being requested by 15th February 1991. In any event, notice of the A.G.M. had been given on the 25th January for a meeting on the 14th February and no objection was raised to this notice period.

2. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FOR 1990/1991

The reports of the Treasurer, the Gardens Chairman and the Chairman were put forward for comments and questioning. The written reports had been circulated in advance of the A.G.M. Congratulations were extended to the officers for the significant amount of work and time which they had devoted free of charge to the Garden and railings project.

3. SETTING OF THE 1991/1992 LEVY

Following advice from Westminster Council as to the likely number of contributors to the Community Charge in the next Financial Year, it was agreed that a sum should be raised which would equate to approximately £200 per Community Charge payer in respect of the Garden for the ensuing year. This would enable the vast majority of the work set out in the Chairman's report at page 3 to be carried out in the next Financial Year, so that, with many of the capital items completed by the end of the next Financial Year, it was likely that the Garden Rate could be reduced for ensuing years. The vote to levy a Garden Rate which would equate to approximately £200 per Community Charge payer was unanimously carried.

4. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

It was reported that each serving member of the Committee

was again prepared to stand for re-election and no other nominations having been received, a vote was taken that each of the following Committee Members should be elected for the ensuing Financial Year:-

Lady Marshall  
Lord Barber  
Mr. David Eckhardt  
Mrs. Lesley MacDonagh  
Mr. Jeremy Mackay-Lewis  
Mdme. Marie Christine Deschamps  
Mr. Daniel Quirici  
Mrs. Jill Slotover  
Mrs. Eileen O'Brien  
Mr. Nicholas Davie Thornhill

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Minks, the Chairman of Pacific Asia Investments Holding Corporation (of 5 Montpelier Square) raised the question of the entitlement to keys for units in No. 5 Montpelier Square. It was appreciated that the Community Charge legislation had resulted in that company having to pay a large contribution to the railings, whilst the short term tenants were not able to use the Garden. It was emphasized that the larger contribution which resulted from the second property elements of the Community Charge, was a quirk of the legislation and nothing to do with the Committee's application of the Community Charge rules. It was re-emphasized that the rules for the use of the Garden are that keys are only issued to permanent residents against indication of a long term (freehold or long leasehold) property interest. Whilst it was appreciated that one could get very short term tenants who might respect the Garden and look after the Garden as if a freeholder in the surrounding houses, it had to be said that, in the main, a short term tenant who perhaps only rented the flats for a week or a fortnight would not have the same incentive to look after the Garden and observe the rules as the bona fide long term residents of the Square. Whether or not 5 Montpelier Square was a residential or commercial building was canvassed. In the course of general discussion the Chairman was able to indicate that new keys for the new gates in the railings would be issued as soon as the gates and locks were erected against receipts from residents. The keys would be numbered to identify each householder's key and would bear a key tag with the basic rules upon it.

The meeting closed at approximatey 7.15 p.m.

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