

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF  
COUNCIL TAX PAYING MEMBERS  
OF  
MONTPELIER SQUARE GARDEN ASSOCIATION**

**Held on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2005 at 6.30 PM  
At 3 Montpelier Square.**

There were 12 members of the Association present. Mr Bernard Asher (Chairman) opened the meeting. Mrs Avril Cox, Nicholas Davy-Thornhill, Daniel Quirici (Committee Members), and Mr and Mrs Jeff Davis sent their regrets that they were unable to attend.

- 1) The Minutes of the AGM held on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2004 were distributed and were unanimously approved.
- 2) The Garden Chairman's Report. Lady Marshall (Garden's Chairman) gave a verbal report. It has been a routine year for the Garden. The main expenditure was on the irrigation system. An extra zone was added to the system to improve the area under the trees in the NE corner. The area has now been planted with bulbs. As reported at last years AGM, the galvanised water tank was leaking and required replacing. The centrifugal pump broke down and it was decided to replace it. In May the area by the N gate became very wet and after investigation was found to be caused by the mains pipe leaking. The leak was from our pipe so it had to be repaired by our plumber. As the Garden Contract is up for renewal, and has gone out to tender with 4 Contractors, it has not been possible to discuss with Spike Jackson plans for the coming year. However, on the planting side the policy remains the same: to use plants that are honey fungus resistant. The loss of plants due to Honey Fungus has been contained to the northern area of the Garden. In the N border the roses were in a poor condition and have been replaced by lavender. Two hundred aconites have been ordered and will be delivered shortly. The wooden tubs have been replaced by faux lead planters. Repainting the railings is expected to be the next large item of expenditure.
- 3) Treasurer's Report. The Accounts for 2003 were distributed. (Copy attached.) Mr Daniel Quirici (Treasurer) was unable to be present and his report was given by Mr Asher. Last year the Precept was raised to £20,000.00. During 2004 less was spent on the Garden than the previous year and it accounts for £1,718.00 surplus. In line with the Committee's policy the surplus will go towards maintaining the reserve fund. The largest item of expenditure was £2812 for the sprinkler and irrigation system. Mr Asher proposed the Accounts be accepted. They were unanimously approved.
- 4) Garden Contract. Spike Jackson's Contract comes up for renewal in April. A new Specification was drawn up, which now includes regular items that have in the past been

invoiced as extras. Four garden contractors, including Spike Jackson, were interviewed. They returned the following, VAT inclusive estimates.

Nick Andrew	£ 7,619.88
Joseph Jones Contract Gardeners	£11,477.40
Spike Jackson	£11,562.00
Garden Associates	£13,800.00

After a discussion it was unanimously agreed that Spike Jackson be awarded the new three year contract.

- 5) Precept. It was recommended not to raise the Precept. It was unanimously accepted.
- 6) The Provisional Date for the Next AGM. It was agreed that it should be held on the last Monday of January, 2006.
- 7) Any Other Business.
  - a) Mrs Jane Bradbury felt the evergreen in the N corner was outgrowing the area and would cause restricted light to the houses on the north side of the Square. We should consider what to do with it. A discussion followed and Lady Marshall agreed to get Treecare Ltd to have a look at it and to report back with suggestions.
  - b) Mr David Eckhardt would like to have a Summer Party for residents. It was agreed that one could be held in June and Mr Eckhardt said he would organize it.
  - c) Mr Asher thanked Mrs Bradbury for all her help in arranging the Christmas Carol Party. He was delighted that it was so well attended and raised £561.00 for the Salvation Army.

Mr Asher concluded the meeting by thanking Lady Marshall for looking after the Garden on our behalf. He also thanked Mr Daniel Quirici and Mr Edward Davies-Gilbert for their work as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

The Meeting was closed at 7.30 PM.

Signed.....

Date.....

PS After the meeting had been formally closed, Mr David Eckhardt told everyone that he had delivered, to every house in the Square, the latest edition of the Westminster Watch Newsletter. He went on to say that he is the local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and wants to make sure it remains active in the area.