

MINUTES OF
MONTPELIER SQUARE GARDEN COMMITTEE MEETING.

Date. 21st January 2002

Held at 28 Montpelier Square.

Committee Members Present

Mr Bernard Asher

Lady Marshall

Mr Jeremy Mackay-Lewis

Mr Nicholas Davie-Thornhill

Mrs Avril Cox

Mr David Eckhardt

Mr Edward Davies-Gilbert

Apologies for absence, Mr Daniel Quirici.

- 1) To Consider the Minutes and Matters Arising. Mr Bernard Asher, (Chairman) invited members of the Committee to read and approve the Minutes of both the 2001 Garden Committee Meeting and 2001 AGM. The Committee unanimously accepted them and the Chairman signed the Committee Minutes.
- 2) Treasurers Report. In the absence of Mr Quirici, (Treasurer) Mr Asher presented the 2001 Accounts. A copy is attached. Lady Marshall, (Garden's Chairman) confirmed that for the coming year there's no major expenditure planned. Mr Asher recommended it be put to the AGM that the Precept should not be raised. It was unanimously agreed.
- 3) Report Garden. Lady Marshall gave a report on the Garden. The Garden was generally in good order. As reported last year, and after consulting Mr Ackers of Westminster City Council, the sycamore by the seating area was found to be badly infected with Honey Fungus. Russell James, tree surgeon, was called in to fell the tree in sections, ground out the roots and remove the timber. The infected area will be treated with anti fungicide before any replanting. Holly, which is Honey Fungus resistant, will be planted as a hedge to screen the seating area from the North road. The plane tree in the North border, planted 5 years ago, is proving a poor specimen and its future will be reviewed after another growing season. The Gardener's Maintenance Contract is due for renewal in April. The present contract expires on 31st March. Mr Spike Jackson, the contractor, has indicated that he will increase the basic contract price by only 0.05% but extra work will be charged at £15.00 per man-hour, a rise of £2.00 per man-hour. Consultation about the contract price is continuing. After a discussion the Committee agreed to recommend to the AGM, subject to the outcome of the consultation, that Mr Spike Jackson be awarded the contact for a further 3 years.

- 4) Policy Issues. Members of the Committee not attending meetings for two consecutive years will be asked to resign.
- 5) Private Parties. The Committee unanimously agreed not to relax the Garden Rule on private parties. The only organised private parties are for children under the age of 8, having first obtained permission from the Garden’s Chairman.
- 6) Jubilee Party. The Chairman would like to recommend to the AGM that we celebrate the Queen’s Golden Jubilee with a drinks party, next summer. The official date for the celebration is over the first weekend in June but it was felt a mid-week evening would be more convenient to the residents of the Square. The Committee agreed that a choice of dates be put to the AGM.
- 7) The AGM Agenda. The Committee discussed the schedule for the AGM agenda. Copy attached.
- 8) Any Other Business.
 - a) Mr Edward Davies-Gilbert reported that the new by-laws sign would cost approximately £300.00. He hoped it would be ready by the summer.
 - b) Mr Eckhardt asked what progress had been made with the lighting. Mr Davies-Gilbert reported that he had spoken to Mr Ashby, Westminster City Council, who was optimistic that Montpelier Square would be on the forthcoming budget. Mr Asher pointed out that the street lighting was outside the Garden Committee’s remit but he recognised that it had an influence on the Garden. If, within a reasonable time, the Council were not going to put extra lighting around the Square then an EGM would be called. It could then be put to residents that perhaps they make a contribution to the capital cost of the Council’s scheme.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7.45 PM

Signed.....

Dated.....