

MINUTES OF
MONTPELIER SQUARE GARDEN COMMITTEE MEETING.

Date. 24th January 2005

Held at 28 Montpelier Square.

Committee Members Present

Mr Bernard Asher

Lady Marshall

Mrs Avril Cox

Mr Edward Davies-Gilbert

Mr Daniel Quirici.

Mrs Jean Fletcher

Mr Nicholas Davy-Thornhill

Mr David Eckhardt

- 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 2004 Garden Committee Meeting and 2004 AGM. Mr Asher proposed they be accepted and the Committee unanimously accepted them.
- 2) Garden Report. Lady Marshall (Garden's Chairman) gave the Garden report. The Garden was generally in good order. The sprinkler system is now maintained on an annual contract by Waterwell. Extra sprinklers were installed in the NE area under the trees to allow for bulb planting. During the early summer the leaking galvanised water tank was replaced and a new centrifugal pump installed. In June an underground leak by the N gate was repaired. As the Garden Contract is up for renewal, and has gone out to tender with 4 Contractors, I have been unable to discuss with Spike Jackson plans for the coming year. However, aconites have been ordered for planting in the spring. Last May some lavender was planted in the N border and in the autumn bulbs were planted in the NE corner. The trees, shed and paths are all in good order but the committee will have to consider the repainting of the railings in the next year.
- 3) 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
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Joseph Jones Contract Gardeners	£11,477.40
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Spike Jackson	£11,562.00
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Garden Associates

£13,800.00

After a discussion the Committee decided to recommend to the AGM that Spike Jackson be awarded the new contract.

- 4) Treasurer's Report. Mr Daniel Quirici, (Treasurer) presented the 2004 Accounts. A copy is attached. Expenditure having been kept down, we were able to put £1718 towards the sinking fund. After the garden contractor's maintenance fee, the sprinkler system was the most expensive item. A new tank, a new pump, repairs to underground pipework, the Waterwell contract and adding extra sprinklers to the system. We should look in to the possibility of buying some trestle tables so we could reduce the Christmas party bill.
- 5) Precept. Mr Quirici would put it to the AGM that the Precept be remain at £20,000.00, the same as last year.
- 6) The AGM Agenda. The Committee discussed the schedule for the AGM agenda. Copy attached..
- 7) London Squares' Day. It was decided not to participate in the London Squares Day.
- 8) Any Other Business.
 - a) The Committee would like to thank Mrs Bradbury for organizing the Christmas Carol Party and raising £561.00 for the Salvation Army.
 - b) Daniel Quirici will write to the new American Embassy residents to see if they would be willing to contribute to the Garden Precept.
 - c) David Eckhardt wanted a security firm to patrol the square at night. A discussion took place. Bernard Asher pointed out the Garden Committee could only deal with the Garden upkeep and security was something that should be taken up with the Knightsbridge Association. David Eckhardt said he would look in to the matter.
 - d) The Chairman thanked Nicholas Davy-Thornhill for continuing to store the Garden archive papers for the Committee.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7.50 PM

Signed.....

Dated.....