

Montpelier Square Garden

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Date 18 June 2007
Held at 8 Montpelier Square

Committee members present Lady Marshall, Garden Chairman
Mr Daniel Quirici, Treasurer
Mrs Avril Cox
Mr David Eckhardt
Mr Yoshi Nishio
Mrs Jean Fletcher, Secretary

Apologies for absence:

Mr Bernard Asher, Chairman
Mr Nicholas Davy-Thornhill

1. To Consider the Minutes and Matters Arising

Mr Daniel Quirici (Acting Chairman) asked members of the Committee to approve the Minutes of the Garden Committee Meeting of 29 January 2007. Mr Quirici proposed they be accepted and the Committee unanimously accepted them. The Minutes of the A.G.M. of 5 February 2007 were also reviewed..

2. Garden Report

Lady Marshall responded to congratulations on the colourfulness of the garden by remarking that the weather, with both sunshine and rain, had been perfect for gardens, so that any effect of some recent absences by the gardeners was not noticeable.

It was agreed that action should be taken against the magpies which are nesting in the garden and preying on smaller birds. Lady Marshall said she would look into possible means of extermination..

Mr Nishio, in charge of the irrigation system, reported that the dozen corroded spray heads in the south border had been replaced, completing the system's refurbishment, which the contractors will check in a month's time.

3. The By-laws

Mrs Fletcher said she was unhappy about the wording of the 'Notice of Contravention' for delivering to offending households. She proposed a kindlier notice, suitable to be a general reminder of the by-laws. This was agreed and Mr Nishio offered to write a briefer, friendlier, more involving version, perhaps mentioning the garden's award(s).

Mr Eckhardt said that persistent offenders would best be dealt with by a letter from the Committee. He was also concerned that any ruling against ball games should not include small children's toys.

4. Composting

Mr Quirici suggested that the Committee might organise the recycling of residents' vegetable waste in the Garden's compost frames. This was thought to be in principle worthwhile but in practice hard to maintain hygienically.

Mr Eckhardt's view was that, to avoid the compost frames becoming a refuse dump, we would need a daily gardener/recycling officer. Lady Marshall remarked that no skilled gardener would want this job. Mrs Fletcher suggested we could try recycling by Committee only. There was no agreement. Mr Quirici and Mrs Fletcher will re-consider this subject.

5. Any Other Business

Lady Marshall reported that the condition of the swing is worrying her. Although it is safe for supervised young children, it could be hazardous for any unsupervised children contravening the by-laws. The committee agreed that it should be removed. Some kind of lower, safer children's play equipment might replace it, to be agreed.

Mr Eckhardt advised that the insurance cover for the Committee has become inadequate and needs to be increased tenfold. Mr Nishio, agreeing, said this may not prove too expensive. Mr Quirici will investigate.

BH Ashm

Signed
