

Montpelier Square Garden Committee

MINUTES
OF ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING 2009

Date 23 February
Held at Deutsche Kirche, Montpelier Place

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

Members of the Association present were Mrs Jane Bradbury, Mrs Vivien Eckhardt and Lord Marshall. Also present was Mr Roger Hayward.

To Consider the Minutes and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 18 February 2008 were approved and will be signed by the Chairman..

2. Garden Report

Lady Marshall displayed the silver cup the garden won as First Prize in the Westminster in Bloom Competition this Summer (97% marks), also the award certificate for Third Prize in the London Squares Garden Competition. All congratulated Lady Marshall and her excellent new team of gardeners. The garden has benefited from the increased time and money spent on it last year.

Lady Marshall said that major improvements in the garden this year included the much admired Box spiral to replace the exhausted bluebell bed and the complete replanting of the north-east

border, which had been ravaged by honey fungus. The new holly hedge is growing well. The planned tree-illumination remains to be done and a comprehensive pruning of the trees will be necessary this year to avoid storm damage.

The garden shed needs repair. The very old right-hand side is in good order but the newer left side and door has rotted. Mr Nishio will consult a carpenter about the possibility of repairing the left side with the same hardwood as the right.

3. Financial Report and Precept

At a Committee Meeting last December **the 2009 Precept was set at 625.**

Mr Quirici announced that he had recently been told by the Financial Controller of Westminster Council that we will be paid our Precept in monthly instalments from now on.

Mr Asher and Mr Eckhardt both commented that this arrangement, which might leave us without access to large sums, made it essential to increase our Contingency Fund substantially.

Various ways of achieving this were suggested. Mr Nishio's idea was that we should set the Precept at 950 in 2010 and 2011 to build up our reserve. It might return it to a lower figure in 2012. The plan was approved unanimously.

4. Any Other Business

Mr Hayward, the Committee's Accountant, has retired and now works only for us. Mr Quirici proposed that Mr Hayward should join the Garden Committee. He was unanimously welcomed.

Signed _____