

# MONTPELIER SQUARE GARDEN

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

*Date and Time: 17 March 2015, 6:30pm*

*Venue: 26 Montpelier Square*

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr Christopher Didizian  
Mr Daniel Quirici  
Mr Neil Carthy  
Mrs Avril Cox  
Lady Janet Marshall  
Mr Nicholas Davie-Thornhill  
Mrs Jane Bradbury

### APOLOGIES

Mr Ali Malek

1. Mr Quirici was appointed meeting chairman.
2. The Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 27th February 2014 were formally proposed, seconded and approved.
3. Lady Marshall presented the Committee with a report on the state of the garden:
  - a. In the annual Garden Squares competition we received the silver medal position, our equal-best ever showing. Hyde Park Square took the gold medal.
  - b. Trees
    - i. Major work on the trees was performed in the past 12 months.
    - ii. One of our trees (Plane on W side) has Massaria. The tree surgeons removed the affected branches.
    - iii. We have all our major trees inspected on an annual basis.
    - iv. The committee requested that written reports be provided by the tree surgeons after each tree inspection.
    - v. A branch has been fallen from the Ailanthus but there was no damage to people or property. We will again approach WCC to seek authority to fell this tree this Autumn. We will have to replace it with another tree.
  - c. The irrigation system failed again during the month of August. This has become an annual occurrence but we have not identified a contractor willing to undertake repair work, most are only interested in quoting for a new system.
  - d. Our shed was broken into in early Autumn and the thieves took equipment belonging to our contractors and valued at £1000. Thefts of this kind are common from London garden squares.
  - e. The gardeners have reported evidence of intruders sleeping overnight in the garden. Residents were encouraged to call the police on 101 if they believe people are in the garden unlawfully.
  - f. We have an excellent working relationship with Robert Player and his team at Garden Associates and we will be inviting him to attend our AGM next month.
4. The chairman and committee thanked Lady Marshall for all her efforts in the past year.

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5. A financial report and draft accounts for the year to 31st March 2015 were presented by Mr Carthy. The income and expenditure for the month of March was a projection.
  - a. Income and expenditure were almost equal. The previous pattern of income surpluses was broken by the high cost of the tree surgery (£5000)
  - b. The Committee has reserves in excess of one year's expenditure. The committee will recommend to the AGM that the precept will remain at £32,500.
6. Mrs Bradbury reported on the Christmas Carol Party. All agreed it was a great success with more than 50 people attending and almost £2500 raised for charity.
7. A draft agenda for the upcoming AGM on April 15<sup>th</sup> was presented to the committee by Mr Carthy. It was approved for distribution. We will be inviting residents to put their names forward to join the committee at the same time as we distribute the agenda.
8. Lady Marshall noted that one of the lights (SW corner) had been switched off.
9. The meeting closed at 8pm.