

**TATE MODERN MINUTES – COMMUNITY GARDEN STEERING GROUP MEETING**  
**Meeting held 26 September 2007, at 6.00pm in the Meeting Room.**

Present: Synthia Griffin (SG), Francois Tarris (FT), Brenda Vel (BV), Joseph Bonner (JB), Laura Ivill (LI), Peter Graal (PG), Ian Sutherland (IS).

Apologies: Carole Wright (CW), Michael Osbourne (MO), Joyce Bellamy (JKB), Edith Slee (ES), Colin Brewer (CB).

**1 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

These were agreed by the group.

Matters Arising:

-BV followed up with Globe regarding water tank. At present it is not feasible for a number of reasons: funding, difficult area, H&S issues. When new Finance Officer arrives in January 2008, they will revisit.

**BV**

-HSBC – SG has tried to contact Faye Scarfe (the Facilities Manager who intends to repair the hoardings over the next 3 months) again. SG will follow up with her.

**SG**

-Signage – SG explained that they are producing a plinth for the two signs being developed for the entrance to the garden and the pond.

**SG**

-Trip to Highgrove. JB has looked into costing for a driver and a bus – should come to approx £20 per person. There was also discussion of group visits to other gardens also. JB thinks that the group visit to Highgrove could be up to 50 people. JB to investigate the best time of year to visit; will progress and report back.

**JB**

-CB requested to repaint pond and perimeter fence white. PG has organised for paint etc. So it is ready to go.

**PG/  
CB**

**2 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR STEERING GROUP – FINALISED DOCUMENT**

-SG fed back comments made last meeting to Helen at BOST to integrate them into the document. SG explained that as Helen had been unable to, she has quickly done this for this evening's meeting.

**SG**

-ToR title – JB raised the point that should the group be not under the BOST umbrella one day, something is needed to clarify and define this relationship. Group agreed that as a way forward, SG will include a clause stating that this is the current configuration, but should circumstances change..." It was also agreed that SG will summarise the partnership between BOST and TM and include in the Terms of Reference.

-Point 3.1 – group agreed to reword as "...once per month and less frequently if

agreed.”

-LI suggested that the name ‘Steering Group’ should be changed to ‘Steering Committee’ all agreed.

-1.1 Membership – discussion on how new membership to the Steering Group should work. The group agreed the importance for total transparency, accessibility of information and more involvement from the community. Ways to achieve this were raised:

- In addition to Bankside Residents’ Forum, information should also be circulated elsewhere, including tenants associations and groups
- An annual open event held for members of the garden.
- Make minutes accessible online

The group agreed that they will look at different ways to make information accessible.

-The group agreed that if a person is not performing as a member, (i.e. does not come to a meeting or event in 3 months) a support process would be put in place with 2-way discussion to establish whether the person does want to commit.

-Max & min membership number: the group agreed that 15 should be a maximum and 12 is ideal. LI raised that there should be no minimum, but a core ate of 4 for a meeting to take place. Group agreed.

-JB raised that he would start the Terms of Reference with ‘2. Purpose’ and put ‘1. Membership’ second. Group agreed.

## **5 FORMALISING A CONSTITUTION**

-SG explained that on advice she had been given, a formal ‘constitution’ is not the best way forward for the group. Group discussed generating another document but calling it something else.

## **6 REMAINING WORK (FURNITURE)**

- Two new benches are being made for the garden. Arthur De Moberay to do sketches of them. Both will be 4-seater benches on a curve (8 more seats in total).

PG

## **7 FUTURE EVENTS (SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES EG BIRD BOXES)**

- PG mentioned that it would be good for parents and carers with kids visiting the garden have access to some toys to play with. Discussion about the best way of managing this. Suggestions were:

PG

- Have the toys stored in the shed & PG could induct parents who want access.
- Get Arthur to make an attractive box to keep toys, nets etc.

- SG mentioned that she will discuss further with Helen about ways of weaving permanent soft elements of play into the garden (i.e. abacus). SG will also talk with Carole (under 5s) about suggestions.

**SG**

-PG asked everyone to be careful of the bridge floating pontoon as it has come adrift.

-Planting Day – PG explained that it will involve pulling up older flowers and will be a general gardening maintenance day as well. Peabody Estate – SG explained that Workshop Facilitator Martha had done some bunting with the parents & children to display on Saturday.

Future Events –

- PG, SG & CW to meet on Friday to set dates for future events and will circulate a programme

-FT suggested an Easter Egg Hunt. PG said that we could integrate this with preparing the garden for Autumn in Spring.

**8 AOB**

- FT gave an update on the microsite dedicated to the community garden. FT & JB met with Susie & Ben (in charge of Digital Programming at Tate Modern). The meeting was enthusiastic and positive. There will be numbers of different areas: involve, history, Steering Group & minutes, events, blogs.

**FT/J  
B**

- FT & JB working on photos and content. Meeting with Digital Programming again in November.

- Note to keep the microsite on the agenda as a standing item.

- LI reported from Carol about issues surrounding the bin in the garden. PG will laminate a little sign in the lid. Group agreed.

**PG**

- JB asked how many people are registered as friends. SG to arrange an update each meeting.

**SG**

- JB mentioned fundraising opportunities. Add to the agenda for next meeting.

- Falcon Point - BV talked about getting the public more involved. SG raised

that TM are hosting Falcon Point's Xmas meeting which would be a good opportunity to communicate the garden to residents.

- Schools – are they aware and involved? Group agreed that this is a pivotal way of increasing family involvement. PG mentioned strengthening links with Charles Dickens school.
- SG mentioned forthcoming exhibitions being held at TM: Louise Bourgeois, The World as a Stage, The Unilever Series: Doris Salcedo, and the giant Spider is coming back to TM.
- Note to add: 'courtesy to visitors to the garden' to the next agenda.
- **Dates of next meetings:**
  - 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2007
  - 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2007 (apologies JB)
  - 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2008