

**COMMUNITY GARDEN STEERING GROUP MEETING -
Meeting held 3 March 2005, 18.00**

1 UPDATE/REMINDER OF CONSULTATION RESULTS

- In summary, the result of the consultation process was that the community garden space should maximise the use of water and feature planting as well as seating.

2 PRESENTATION OF CURRENT GARDEN PLAN

- PG presented an amended version of the plan for the garden, based on the original which was produced by Garden Designer xxxxxxxx. The main changes to the plan are that there is less hard landscaping and more areas of greenery, with a larger area for the pond edged with plants, which is to be used as an educational tool. The basic structure of the garden will remain the same, which will include a path (1.4m wide) leading from the entrance of the garden to the end including a sheltered area. PG presented Edith Slee's design for a mosaic based on a labyrinth theme which will be made using materials found from the Thames (at a cost of £2500) it was suggested that the design should incorporate planting. The garden will also feature stepping stones to the pergola to add vertical interest. PG suggested that professional contractors will need to be used to complete the hard landscaping. CB raised the point that the garden posed a security risk and that the immediate residents would be more vulnerable to casual burglaries. At present, there is no policy on the opening times and access to the garden but given its proximity to the Tate and the current fencing that surrounds it, it already has a reasonable level of security. DH acknowledged the security concerns. It was also stressed that the primary purpose of the space was that it was aimed at local residents and it was to act as a creative garden project space for local residents to develop. CB suggested that real/dummy circuit video could be installed as a deterrent and DH suggested that it should be possible. All present agreed the new plan that was presented.

3 PLANS FOR 2005

- It was agreed that a priority should be to lay the footprint of the garden immediately, with an estimated completion date of this work to be by in the end of April 2005. This would include laying the adi-grip path, the concrete base for the pond and for onsite storage to be made available by purchasing a shed. DH mentioned that once work commences it should be easier to gain further funding to support any additional work, planting and specialised furniture that may be needed. DH mentioned that there has been £20,000 made available this financial year with £9,000 remaining to cover the cost of the adi-grip path. As part of the Healthy Living project BOST is able to finance a raised bed to grow herbs. Goldman Sachs can commit £1,000 towards plants/beds as well as volunteers to plant. A Goldman Sachs planting day has been agreed for 20th May 2005.

- PG suggested planting wild flowers in the mean time to add colour and interest until the work is done. Also there is a need to look for planting that will cover the bear walls which may help the security issue. PG suggested that it was a necessity to have water available for the site and additional lighting if possible. DH suggested that the cost of this may be covered by the Projects & Estates department at Tate. Better Bankside could commit up to £3,000 towards materials for the garden. DH, PG & CB to discuss and finalise what the available money should be spent on. PG to agree contractors to be used with DH. PG Top soil is needed as the current soil is poor and has high alkaline levels and in late April soil improver should be used to treat the soil in advance of any planting. PG to draw up a list of materials needed and circulate. CB suggested that shade should be provided in the garden and that low shade trees could be put in. PG suggested involving Trees for London. or London wildlife as they give trees for free. PG suggested that Dan Peterson should be commissioned to fine tuning the current garden design plan. But it was decided that the priority should be to focus on the immediate work that needs to be done.

4 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Late April date tbc

Attendance

Synthia Griffin
Donald Hyslop
Francois Tarrisse,
Colin Brewer,
Grisel Tarifa,
Nicola Hart,
Orion Hart,
Laura Ivell,
Chris Bateman.

Assistant Curator: Community Programmes
Community Initiative Co-ordinator

Apologises

Morag Mcnair,
George Dear,
Brenda Vel,
Sue Page,
Ian O' connell