

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

Present

Colin Brewer (CB), Carole Wright (CW), Michael Osbourne (MO), Francois Tarris (FT), Brenda Vel (BV), Joyce Bellamy – Metropolitan Gardens Association (JB -MGA), Joseph Bonner (JB), Arthur De Mowbray – Garden Furniture Designer & Maker (AM), Laura Ivill (LI), Peter Graal (PG).

Apologises: Edith Slee (ES).

1 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

These were agreed by the group.

2 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- SPRUNG ACTION GATE – SG reported to the group that the AMEC Facilities team had been contacted regarding the closing mechanism & buzzer on the gate. SG reported that EX-EC had been called out to repair this in Nov 06 but that there was still a problem. SG to follow up. SG also reported to the group that confirmation had been given that the current water supply to the garden was infact permanent.
- GARDEN (20 min) INDUCTION – Peter to arrange with the steering group and to finish paperwork in connection to this.
- HSBC/paying for Trellis – SG to contact them again regarding financing the cost of some items in the garden eg the trellis/bench/arch etc.

SG

PG

SG

3 STRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

Compost Bins - AM has designed 2 bespoke wooden boxes. PG suggested positioning them near the perimeter wall CB suggested looking at another location. PG to explore other options.

PG

Trellis – This will be positioned on the wall facing the HSBC building. AM has designed a hooped style echoing the design of the shelter. Approximate height 70cm.

Arch – This will be positioned at the bottle neck part of the garden. It will have a box section with zig zag cross brace design, a solid design which will be filled by soil. PG to explore hydrolic crystals for watering and perhaps include alternative planting such as trailing seedem.

Bench – PG reported to the group that a need has been identified for another bench to accompany the existing one designed by Riverwood. The design of which would be based on an interwoven curve (AM showed the group an image of the potential design). At present no budget is in place the fund this

extra bench so it will be on hold until this is confirmed.

SG

SOAK WAY – AM to re-excavate and make a tailor made box (not an obvious bin) but could store small amounts of rubbish. SG to follow up with the rangers about regularly emptying it.

PLANTING - most is now in place. PG to put goldfish in the pond. CB offered to donate some. JB-MGA suggested that the area near the path/mosaic should be planted with thyme. PG to plant low growing abellia's (evergreen) that have a long flowering period and are low maintenance. PG reported to the group that granite sets had been donated by the Cathedral for underneath the benches & compost bins.

PG

AM was thanked for his hard work in the garden to date in particular for designing, making and building the shelter.

SG updated the group on CW's new position as Community Gardener at BOST and facilitator for the Under 5's gardening sessions (which run once a month on a Wednesday morning).

PG

PG to hang the patty pans made at the mosaic workshops on the perimeter wall.

PG raised the issue of the entrance to the garden and would like to make it more welcoming. At present no budget is in place to support this but it was agreed it would be discussed at a later date to explore potential options.

4 GARDEN EVENTS

PG/SG reported that the recent events in the garden had been well attended and productive (Big Tidy Up – 19 May). The herb bed had been planted (some donated for free from Roots & Shoots), gravel was laid in the pond to help distinguish wildlife & pond plants were put in place.

PG/SG to programme future dates for garden events and circulate to the group.

SG

SG reported to the group that London in Bloom had expressed an interest in nominating the garden this year.

5 GARDEN OPENING

SG reported to the group the format for the event:

Family Event – 4.00-5.30pm with workshops led by London Wildlife Trust (Bug Hunts), BOST (Planting in a Pot & Vegetable Puppets), Tate Modern (Bunting & Frottage linked to works in the Tate collection). There will also be a junk percussion workshop taking place in the garden. Simon Hughes to cut the cake at 4.30pm

Formal Opening – 6.00-8.00pm with speeches from Helen Firminger (BOST), Nick Serota (Tate Director), Edith Slee (local resident & steering group)

member). Informal tours led by Peter will also take place.

SG

The group suggested inviting Peter Wain, The Bishop, Major of London, Councillor Jen Jones and local press. SG to follow up.

6 AOB

Floodlight – CB reported to the group that the bulb wasn't working. SG to follow and get repaired.

SG

JB suggested adding the Terms of Reference/Steering Group to the agenda for the next meeting. SG to follow up with BOST who currently are developing terms of reference.

SG

CW let the group know about the Edible Estates project linked to the Global Cities exhibition.

CB mentioned that he had a bird feeder which could be used in the garden.

PG

PG follow up with laminated sheets with common weeds, garden info, volunteer policy, H&S documents.

Wildlife/Birds noticed in the garden include green finch, Wren's, Blackbirds, Magpies, Robins, Ducks, Squirrels

LI raised the point about signage for the garden going forward.

JB mentioned a forthcoming event looking at the landscapes outside of buildings 29 June in Temple.

SG reported to the group that local parent & regular attendee at the garden events Ian Sutherland, had expressed an interest in joining the steering group but was unable the meeting.

DONM

Thurs 19 July 6pm-7.30pm (Steering Group Induction 30min)

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