

**TATE MODERN MINUTES – COMMUNITY GARDEN STEERING GROUP MEETING**  
**Meeting held 27 MARCH 2007, 6.00pm in the Meeting Room**

Present: Synthia Griffin (Chair) (SG), Peter Graal – BOST (PG), Edith Slee (ES), Francois Tarris (FT), Carole Wright (CW), Michael Osbourne (MO), Laura Ivill (LI), Arthur De Mowbray, Colin Brewer (CB).

Apologies: Adam Bakkar (AB), Joseph Bonner (JB), Brenda Vel (BV).

**1 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes were agreed by the group.

PG to finalise Volunteer Policy.

SG to follow up the repairs to the sprung action on the gate.

PG

SG

**2 TRAIL OPENING/ACCESS SECURITY**

SG reported to the group that 99 people had registered as ‘Friends of the Garden’ and that feedback from the Security team, Better Bankside Rangers and those who had registered had been positive.

**3 PROGRESS UPDATE – GARDEN DESIGN, MOSAIC DESIGN/BUILD/POND/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

PG reported that new plants had been planted in the herbaceous borders. Forthcoming work included stepping stones to be put in place to delineate the herbaceous borders. It was requested that more anemones should be planted for next year.

**Realignment of the Pond** – PG reported to the group that work will commence in mid April on the re-shaping of the pond to echo the symmetry of the garden. PG confirmed that the bank of earth currently on the perimeter of the bog part of the pond will go and a small mound will remain. A couple of trees such as the olive’s may need to be replanted.

**Garden Furniture** - x2 further crescent benches will be put in place around the mosaic.

The tiered **raised bed** design (using larch wood) was agreed, prior to the meeting by the steering group and will be put in place incorporating feedback from the Steering group to ensure it is wheelchair accessible. Arthur De Mowbray will be building and installing it. FT requested that the design could perhaps have 2 tiers rather than 3 as this may be more proportionate.

**Arch** – the design for this is to be finalised.

**Shelter** – Arthur De Mowbray has designed the shelter and will install it with a framework made from larch (which will weather to a grey colour after 1yr, 6ft in

length, 5 ft wide). The model was shown and the design was agreed by the group. LI raised the point that it should be an adequate size to accommodate a school group. PG&ADM to look at the design to ensure this.

PG

SG to follow up getting a permanent tap in place in the garden. PG raised the point that the water supply seems to be turned off on occasions – if this is the case SG suggested reporting to Security control so that the Amec team can arrange for it to be turned on.

SG

Mosaic – White/grey pebbles will be used as ‘fill in’ for the community garden mosaic with the foraged ‘red tile’ materials from the Riverbank forming the labyrinth design. Community based workshops will take place on Saturday 31 March 2007 led by mosaic artist Jane Higginsbottom, Tam Giles and Edith Slee. SG to co-ordinate logistical support for this event. Archaeologist Fiona Haughey, will collate worksheets interpreting the foraged materials in the mosaic. All members of the steering group are encouraged to volunteer on 2-4<sup>th</sup> April to assist with the installation of the mosaic.

#### **4 FUTURE EVENTS (PARENTS & UNDER 5’S GARDENING CLUB – WED MORNING ONCE A MONTH, MOSAIC WORKSHOP - 31 MARCH, GREEN SPACE MAPPING – 28 APRIL, GRAND PREPARATIONS – 19 MAY, GRAND OPENING – 20 JUNE)**

PG to let the Steering group know in advance by email when there are opportunities to get involved in any forthcoming work in the garden. PG reported to the group that he was continuing to bring a mental health group and Connect (an organisation that works with those who are experiencing communication difficulties) on a monthly basis to the garden to do light gardening duties. PG to set up an induction for current members of the steering group. SG reported to the group the forthcoming events planned in the garden (as above).

PG

PG

#### **5 FORMAL OPENING – JUNE 2007**

SG reported to the group that plans for the formal opening of the garden on 20 June 2007 was progressing well. A planning meeting with Helen Firminger (Director, BOST) had taken place and a provisional programme has been devised. It will be a two tiered event 4.00-5.30pm with drop in activities for Families, 6.00-8.30pm garden party with speeches from Nicholas Serota (Director, Tate), Helen Firminger to MC as well as steering group representative Edith Slee. All stakeholders are to be invited including Shakespeare’s Globe, HSBC and Goldman Sach’s volunteers. SG had previously asked for suggestions for speakers at the opening ES suggested Chris Baines. Having had further discussions with Helen Firminger at BOST although the suggestion was welcomed it was decided that he might not be the most appropriate person as his specialism is in wildlife. ES objected strongly to this. Although the garden does have some wildlife aspects it’s not exclusively a wildlife garden. SG stressed that suggestions were welcomed and that the aim of the event was to support the opening of the garden and where possibly take on board the input.

**6 AOB**

**7 DONM**

Steering group meetings:

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April - Meeting Room Level 3

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May - Board Room Level 3

**SG**

