

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE ORNAMENTAL GARDEN ON 8TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Present: Grace (chair), Grazyna, Hertha, Isobel, Jane, Jos, Lana, Lisa, Sabrina, Yvonne, Roger (Secretary).

Apologies: David, Jay, Jessica, Judith, Lorna.

AGM PREPARATIONS

Grace announced that the AGM is to be held on 29th September by Zoom. Jos will act as the Administrator ensuring people who want to speak are able to do so. All those present expressed a willingness to continue serving on the Committee.

Grace will design a poster to go up in all blocks this weekend. She will do HLM, Roger MM and Lana LM. It will ask residents to send questions/concerns in advance of the meeting by email to hollylodgera@gmail.com and to a phone number monitored by herself.

GARDENS

Jane said that despite Covid-19 the Gardening Group had continued well, developing the vegetable garden behind HLM. This had grown organically without the need for an allotment policy with all the bureaucracy this implies.

Lisa pointed out there are other areas that could be developed such as behind MM, around the sheds. There is plenty of room for prospective gardeners on the Estate.

FIRE EXITS

Grace has written to John Brett asking for smash glass access to the Automatic Opening Vents (AOVs) from the inside as well as the outside. Also the possibility of key pad access for roof maintenance.

Grace will write to our Councillors and Meric Apak emphasising how this small compromise might well prevent a lot of opposition to Camden's plans to lock access to the roofs.

MAINTENANCE AND CARETAKING

Sabrina and Grazyna raised the problem of the very poor roof maintenance and care-taking by Camden.

It was agreed that the roofs and gutters should be cleaned at least twice yearly, in the autumn and spring.

Roger will get in touch with Housing Repairs to follow up John Brett's promise to make roof maintenance a priority on the Estate. We need it in writing that maintenance will be carried out on a regular basis.

The Estate has been chosen as the pilot for a project to clear communal areas of residents' belongings as part of a fire safety drive. We should combine this with improving care-taking as a whole, introducing the idea of a log book with a list of duties for Caretakers to sign off and to which residents could add comments.

It was agreed to invite Debbie Marno, the Estate Supervisor, to our next meeting to discuss these issues.

POND

Lana reported that some materials for repairing the pond had to be sourced from France but contractors are ready to carry out the repairs at the end of September.

Lana will liaise with Jane before work is scheduled to start so we can organise a party to clear the pond. This should be on a Saturday when people are more likely to be free. Emma must be informed for advice and action on preserving plants.

AOB

Jane pointed out that the three lamp posts at the top of the garden between MM and HLM are still not working and "winter is coming". Roger said he had contacted Camden about this but had no reply.

Roger will chase this up.