

APPENDIX 5

Gardens Advisory Group – Minutes of Meeting 1 July at 2.30

Present	Helen Davinson	BEO	HD
	Michael Bennett	BEO	MB
	Rosie Hardicker	Open Spaces	RH
	Louisa Allen	Open Spaces	LA
	Berthe Wallis	Resident	BW
	Anne Naphine	Resident	AN
	Nancy Chessum	Resident	NC
	Gillian Laidlaw	Resident	GL
	Sarah Hudson	Resident	SH
	Paula Tomlinson	Resident	PT

	<p>Remit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quarterly Joint Inspections with House Officers and Open Spaces Officers ○ To comment upon plants being used. To help prioritise new and trial planting schemes for new planters such as those being installed outside Shakespeare Tower - all schemes subject to funding ○ To comment upon levels of maintenance being undertaken by Open Spaces such as pruning ○ To provide a steer for the RCC and BRC for new projects and trials eg. Providing allotment spaces - subject to funding 	
	<p>Fann Street Garden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosie to carry out some basic Health and Safety training with group. To be held in September – more of a “toolbox talk” • Accessibility path. To review if funding is available for this year and possible options to include a viewing area. • Risk Assessments – Rosie to check format – can they be shortened /modified so they don’t run to so many pages. Complete • Wildlife Group to meet with BEO in September as scheduled 	<p>RH</p> <p>HD/BEO</p>
	<p>Allotments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defoe Place – large planters to south of Shakespeare not considered suitable (may well fall apart when ivy is removed). BEO now looking to replace these with concrete rings (waiting on price) • Could possibly use ones to north of Tower? Reviewing • Possible amendment of agreement for future planters to highlight that they are for produce. “edible gardens” Some planters an issue during winter in terms of how they look. • Litter behind planters. Less of an issue but cleaners to check more regularly • Some planters removed because of their condition. • Inspection to be held with prior notice given to holders. 	<p>HD</p> <p>HD</p>
	<p>Walkaround</p> <p>Thomas More Lawn</p> <p>Defoe bed being watered in addition to irrigation. Some of the new planting is dying back – gardeners to monitor.</p>	<p>LA</p> <p>LA</p>

	<p>Tree that will be going in the Autumn (on advice from Open Spaces) was agreed upon.</p> <p>Overall new Defoe bed planting is doing well. Some self-seeded grasses are to be left. If extra planting is required. To consider herbs such as marjoram, thyme and sage. Some areas that require weeding were point out. Some paving slabs that require replacement were noted.</p> <p>Speed Lawn Looking well maintained. One border of bedding was commented on as being particularly pretty.</p> <p>St Giles Terrace New planters now in-situ. GAG approved of planting in place. Having to be frequently watered as they are metal.</p> <p>Past Walkaround - update Thomas More Lawn – possible site for compost bin by Girls Schools. Area to be cordoned off. Open Spaces to provide costings etc. Not feasible Thomas More Lawn – removal of 3 trees. Open Spaces to check re TPOs etc. BEO to double check listing issues. Notice needed for neighbouring blocks. 1 tree decided on following advice. To be removed in autumn. Open Spaces seeking further advice re. extra bird and bat boxes.</p>	
	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigation system beneath Breton/BenJo This is currently still off. Large shrubs beginning to look distressed. Open Spaces will monitor and water if needed. Ongoing. • Difficult to access areas Including Frob Cres Buttresses, Thomas More Hanging Gardens – BEO has spoken with Planning and putting together an application. Quotes will follow. No work can be carried out until new measures are in place. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London in Bloom. July Inspections (11th and 30th) • Open Squares Garden a great success with nearly 500 visitors to Fann St Gdn • BHS and OS 11 May event in Speed Lawn. As advertised across the estate. Gardening demonstrations and children’s activities. Successful poor numbers due to weather. • Autumn bulb planting event for residents. 26.10.13 to be advertised. Open Spaces to order snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils. As this is the first time, will keep the event to Thomas More Lawn. • Barbican Estate Management Plan Open Spaces and BEO to think about this ahead of next mtg. 	HD
	<p>Next meeting dates – 30 September at 2pm Geoff to accompany walkaround</p>	