

APPENDIX 1

GAG Meeting held 17 April 2018 – report for RCC

Keeping residents better informed about the GAG activities is vital – and playing an important role in this is the new BEO Communications Officer Nabeela Ahmad who says she's researching different ways to do this as not all residents are on line.

While the 150 notice boards in the different blocks are important for hard copy information, members noted that a lot of the notices are regularly out of date – block cleaners are to be briefed to ensure old notices are removed.

Discussing ways of informing residents more widely of GAG activities, House Groups are to be asked to circulate info within blocks and to ask HG reps at RCC how they would like GAG to communicate with them. Sessions are also to be organised to Meet the Gardeners in different areas around the estate. The first one to be TM area.

The new bird hide in the Wildlife Garden had a well attended launch and is being well used; 52 species of wildlife (not just birds) have been seen.

Barbican Horticultural Society membership is about 70 flats out of 2000 on the estate. The May meeting, with a presentation from the RHS' official orchid painter, will be publicised in the Bulletin and sent to House Groups.

An allotments inspection revealed that very few were looking good – with some completely unplanted while others were weed-ridden. A meeting of all plot holders is being arranged as all have signed a contract with BEO to maintain their plots. Members wanted contracts enforced, with plots re-allocated to people on the waiting list if holders do not comply.

Inspections: Three large planters in Brandon Mews badly affected by vine weevil. In the Sculpture Court repairs were needed to the wooden planters. It was noted the area lacked a central focal point – perhaps a circular seat or sculpture?