

*New manager will be  
Carl Helmsley*

Present: Jay Venn, Carol French, Deborah Allen, Denise Delalande  
Lucy Bell, Jerome Veriter, Carol St John, Linda George, Wendy Litchfield (minutes)

Matters Arising/Feedbacks

Garden Help – Guerrilla Gardening may show at some stage but it is doubtful. Richard Gentry is keen to help so we should keep contacting him about the rubbish bags and if we can borrow one of his chippers.

Bank Account – We have about £2,600 in our budget.

Tree Surgery – Treecare have quoted £300 for minor works. However, if we hire Jay's contact, pay Jay and hire a chipper we could complete all the tree work in the garden. The money could come from both the Project and Library funds. Linda said that there is a freeze on library spending money until after April. As the work should be finished as soon as possible, it was agreed, at the meeting, that the money should come from the Project's funds. (The cost will be about £700). In the next financial year, there may be Library funds available, which can be used to reimburse the Project. Jay will arrange the hiring of the chipper and a convenient day with her contact. A Wednesday when the library is closed might be a possibility. When the date has been chosen we should contact Janet Powers to arrange for the library to be open on that day.

Shed – There was some confusion about today's starting time for shed erecting. It was decided to start after the meeting and then return to finish the job on Saturday 17 January at 11.30 am. First the blue lean-to shed will have to be removed. If it is raining on 17 January, the date should be cancelled because there is a certain amount of electrical work (drilling) to be done.

Raised Beds – One has been finished and it was hoped that another could be built after the meeting.

Further Funding – The application for 'Awards for All' is nearly ready to be sent off. Avril has telephoned the bank and we have to authorise the bank to complete their part of the application. For this, two signatures are required which were obtained at the meeting. £10,000 has been requested and, if we get the money, Groundwork will be coming in to do the heavy work etc.

We did not hear further from Ed about using the Kilburn Community Choir for carol singing.

Carol St John who is a member of the Kilburn and Kensal Rise Area Forum said that Simon (councillor) is thinking of ideas for their next meeting. Although we have already been given some money from Neighbourhood Working, there is a possibility that we could be given more money. (Next financial year). Their next meeting will be March/April 2009 and one member from the Garden Project could attend the meeting (held at Queens Park Community School) to represent us.

Garden Themes – We have already done most of the planning work. We have looked at funding to come from growing vegetables but the garden is not primarily for raising funds.

Website – Jay has contacted Andy who is dealing with it.

Health & Safety Training – Carol French intends holding her next training session on Saturday 21 February 2009. The following session will be in June. She also intends holding two separate Horticultural Skills workshops, the first in late April and the second in early September. These are both busy times for gardening. Carol has sent an e-mail to Avril about this.

We need a flyer to advertise the sessions and we might attract people who are unaware of our project or just wish to have free gardening training. Some people might now wish to commit themselves to the project. The training will be set at a fairly basic level and, because of the recession, people might be interested in attending.

The dates arranged were Saturday 25 April from 2pm to 4 pm and Saturday 5 September from 2pm to 4pm. Home-made cakes and tea would be provided at the sessions.

Linda and Carol will draft the information leaflet and Sunshine was volunteered to help, as she is keen to do publicity items.

Gardening Books – We should keep taking out these books.

Next meeting is Saturday 21 February 2009 at 11.30 am with Health and Safety Training for new members afterwards.