

TMO GARDEN & SOCIAL ACTIVITIES 1st April 2019 - 31st March 2020

Chair: Sophie Thorpe

The year had been one of reflection for our estate. During this year, the TMO had been learning and growing as we ventured into a new stage managing our estate, especially for the Social Committee as we reviewed what had been offered to residents in the past, and what can be offered in the future.

All minutes of Committee meetings are sent to our Monitoring Officer at LBS, Tracy Stedman.

All our budgets and procedures match our rules and our terms of reference and we focused on being inclusive and accountable for any TMO activities by staff and residents as possible.

As we moved into our second year, the focus and drive was towards bridging relationships across the estate by involving disenfranchised members of the community. We did this by keeping our TMO Rules and inclusivity and diversity policies at the forefront of our agenda. This was immediately reflected in the diversity of newly appointed committee members. Whilst we lost a few committee members along the way due to relocation and personal time restrictions, we maintained diversity with our new members, and are pleased to welcome a growing number of tenants.

SOCIAL EVENTS:

AGM Event 18th September 2019 6:30pm - 9:00pm

- Event was hosted at Living Space, 1 Coral Street, SE1.
- Refreshments and food were organised by Sophie Thorpe, Board member and Social Committee Chair, with food provided by Mama's Cafe, a local establishment.
- W&Q provided beer, wine, fruit juice, lemonade and crisps (some items left over from the 2018 summer event).
- Tea and coffee provided by Living Space.
- A raffle prize draw was sourced and hosted by Julie Lewis, Board member, which was very successful.
- Door to door notices and posters were distributed estate wide.
- 33 adults attended

Coffee Mornings Autumn 2019 - Spring 2020

- Events were discussed and agreed between Sophie Thorpe, Jessey Cudjoe and Jill Goddard.
- TMO Staff reached out to those who are older and most vulnerable and attendance was beginning to build with up to 4 or 5 residents attending each time.
- We were hosted at The Duke of Sussex and were given complimentary biscuits.
- The focus of the Coffee Mornings was to engage residents, giving them the opportunity to leave the home and feel part of the community. It's a great way to hear their views and memories of the estate, and what's important to them in a relaxed and welcoming environment.
- We had to stop due to Covid-19 as of March 2020.
- We have recently been able to reinstate these with Afternoon Tea in the main Webber Row garden as of August 2020, adhering to social distancing guidelines.

Christmas Lunch 9th December 2019

- Event was discussed and agreed by Sophie Thorpe, Jessey Cudjoe and Jill Goddard (Social Committee members) and approved by the Board.
- Hosted at The Duke of Sussex where christmas lunch was provided with wine on the house
- 2 staff members and 8 residents attended, making 10 attendees in total.

Christmas Tesco Vouchers 16th December 2019

- Funds were discussed and agreed by Sophie Thorpe, Jessey Cudjoe and Jill Goddard (Social Committee members) and approved by the Board.
- A small financial contribution of £50 voucher was given to those most in need on the estate.
- The TMO Manager decided who would receive the vouchers, and delivered them.
- All vouchers were gratefully received.

EXTERNAL GRANTS: 2019 - 2020

CGS (Cleaner Greener Safer) grant for additional Bike Lockers £5,000 (2018 - 19)

TMO has agreed 2 locations for the Bike Lockers to be situated: Mawdley courtyard, on Webber Row and Quentin House. Installation is yet to be completed. Distribution of bike lockers must adhere to the Bike Locker Policy and the Board will ensure this is carried out.

Thanks to Moninuola Oladigbolu and Delight Amotoby (who both stepped down by September 2019) for their contributions. In the early part of the year the committee was dormant due to lack of committee members available to meet. Sophie Thorpe, as Social Committee Chair and Jessey Cudjoe, committee member were joined later in the year by Jill Goddard, TMO Board Chair.

March 2020 has brought unprecedented restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This impacted our ability to meet face to face with residents during this summer and has presented us with a new 'normal' that we need to work with for the foreseeable future. Our Afternoon Tea has been a trial of how to meet safely.

GARDENING EVENTS:

BOST Consultation

In April 2019, Jill Goddard met with Molly Gadenz of Bankside Open Spaces Trust (BOST) for a potential partnership to develop the green spaces estate wide. Jill followed up with BOST in October 2019 and again in February 2020 to discuss a site walk around. Jill also met with other Southwark estate gardeners in March 2020 to get advice on how they run their gardens. COVID-19 directly impacted our ability to move forward with this project due to furlough restrictions.

Garden Contract

Funding for the dedicated skilled gardener came to an end in the first quarter and the garden club ceased as a result. Members of the garden club continued to maintain garden standards as best as possible along with regular grass cutting by a contractor. Then Jill Goddard and Julie Lewis worked with Sirajul Islam, TMO Manager, to draft the contract tenders and assessed against criteria for fairness. Interviews were carried out, consultation ideas discussed and the contract was awarded to Just Ask in the second quarter. They presented

their gardening report to the 2019 AGM. The GSC has recently met to conduct the 1st year review of performance.

Social and Gardening Events Communications Strategy

Moving Forward

Sophie Thorpe is working closely with Umran Malik on the development of the website communications strategy, ensuring that the TMO fulfills its obligations to provide inclusive, diverse and open channels of communications with as many residents as possible.

The focus is to move as much communication over to digital formats, with the express understanding that some residents will still prefer paper format to ensure all social and garden activities are widely communicated.

In March 2020 the Board agreed to combine the Garden Club and Social Committee to consolidate into one. The Garden & Social Committee (GSC) was formed and Julie Lewis stepped down as Garden Club Chair in June 2020. Sophie Thorpe was voted as Chair for the GSC with Jill Goddard voted as Vice Chair, and Julie Lewis and Jessey Cudjoe as committee members.

We acknowledge that it will take time to build up social event attendance, but with the developments of the TMO communications strategy, to include text messaging and email, due in the second half of 2020, resident awareness and attendance can grow significantly during 2020-21 onwards.

The annual council residents allowance of £1,300 for community activities was received and the next installment will be applied for after the 2020 AGM with the approved TMO accounts.

Sophie Thorpe
Chair, Garden & Social Committee (GSC)
W&Q TMO AGM
29th September 2020