

Styles House TMO & TRA Annual report



September 2013

Chairs report

Yes to TMO!

After the hard work of the last two years, it was great news that we got such a strong yes vote for TMO for Styles House. This has meant we have been able to move forward with recruiting a TMO manager. As you have also probably seen, the office rebuild is coming along well. We will also soon be starting recruitment for a full time caretaker.

However, we haven't only been working on the development of the TMO. Everyone will have seen the lovely new garden next to the allotments. We have also had a particularly spectacular garden this summer with some lovely flowers. All of this has contributed to us being awarded 'outstanding' for our "amazing achievement" by RHS London in Bloom. This is down to the hard work of some amazing residents. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

The allotments also continue to thrive and thanks to Philippe for managing them so well.

We are again planning to take part in Open Gardens next June and we received some funding for Christmas decorations for garden at Christmas.

Residents on the estate have also taken part in BARD, a group set up to fight for responsible development on Blackfriars Road, where Southwark wants to build several tall buildings. Residents also took an active part in a number of consultations over the last year, including in the C1 parking zone, which led to the re-inclusion of Short Street in the C1 zone and the creation of new parking spots on Joan Street and Hatfields, which were created as an acknowledgement of the difficult parking situation for Styles residents.

We continue to pressurise Southwark over a number of block issues, including pest control, cleaning and outstanding issues from the major works amongst others.

We expect the next year to be busy and challenging, but it will see the start of our TMO, which is an opportunity for residents to have a proper say in decisions about how the estate is run.



our 'outstanding' garden

Treasurers report

TRA Treasurers Report 2012/13

Following a successful application for funding, we once again, secured £1100 to fund our TRA activities. We continue to use this money to maintain and improve the garden and surrounding environment, and for social events. Thanks should be given to the volunteers who helped to organise the Jubilee Garden Party; it was a pity about the weather, but it was good to have a joint event with a neighbouring TRA. Thanks should also go to the regular gardening team who all work hard to maintain an attractive garden and allotment space, and give hours of their own time looking after our wildlife (I'm not sure that goldfish count as wildlife, but the bees do!) Sadly the bees died, as many did, during the bad winter weather. Hopefully we will replace these this year. The gardening team would like to improve the 'doggie playground' this year by erecting a wooden fence down the path and along the side of the summer house. This space has been much appreciated by residents and their pets. The TRA welcomes any other ideas for using the funding.

TMO Treasurers Report 2012/13

No official reports are available for 2011/2012 owing to the start-up date of the TMO. We put in a Funding Agreement Bid to the Department for Communities and Local Government to help with the implementation stage of becoming a TMO. We were successful in our bid. The 'first milestone' payment of £5000 has been paid into the TMO bank account held at Metro Bank, followed by a second payment of £15000. Of this, a payment of £13,440.40 has been made to Solon for work completed up to June 2013.