

**GARDEN GROUP FIRST MEETING Saturday 02 March 2019**

1. Ten people attended (they included the Chair of the Friends and one of his committee). There were apologies from six people.
2. The group will generate ideas and plans for the garden. CCT have applied for some funding for soil, plants and paving, towards recovery of areas affected by the recent building works. It was noted that three sides of the garden are 'public' and only the rear garden is private. Aims for the garden were discussed. The Conservation Statement 'garden extracts' were circulated. It was agreed that the public sides should complement the lovely building, with design and planting to evoke the Edwardian garden of 1906. The rear garden should be planned for maximum enjoyment of its private and more peaceful aspect.
3. The group would like to invite the residents from the flats to join the group
4. After walking round each section of the garden the group shared the following views;
  - (a) The priority should be the Ferndene Road section which was badly damaged by the building work. It was noted that the section nearest the gym has half a dozen separate service inspection chambers that need to be accommodated.
  - (b) The front border is the second priority.
  - (c) The Haredale Road border is in reasonable condition, so could be tidied and looked after for the time being.
  - (d) The largest section of the rear garden has been landscaped but the end beyond the gym had not been touched. There was overplanting of *viburnum burkwoodii*, some of these plants could be moved elsewhere. Better to underplant than overplant.
3. It was recognised that there should be disabled access where possible.
4. It was agreed that planting could be educational, including variety of size, scent and colour.
5. It was suggested that consideration be given to seeking funding for renovation of the perimeter walls, piers and railings (all Listed) as an individual project. Any new planting along those walls will be ruined when the walls are renovated.
5. The group discussed the potential for seating areas, possibly one area with chairs and tables and one area with a couple of benches. It was noted that the rear garden and the Haredale border get the most sun. The Ferndene border is the most shady. The front border has most traffic.
6. The following next steps were agreed:
  - (a) Access to the garden to be sorted asap. A buzzer on the gate near the gym. And the door from the library to be unlocked.
  - (b) The rear garden needs maintenance quite soon - weeding, grass cutting particularly. This can be done by any of the group.
  - (c) Three members agreed to measure the garden and produce a plan. This group will also audit and list the plants and trees currently in the gardens. If possible this group will also test out the possibility of turning over the ground in the border gardens to help us to decide if we need to hire equipment/specialist help.
  - (d) Further funding can be applied for when we have developed a plan.
  - (e) A group email should be created.
  - (f) The group will meet monthly.

**Next meeting Saturday 30th March, 11.00am at Carnegie. All welcome.**