## Vauxhall Gardens Estate Residents and Tenants Association (VGERTA)

Committee Meeting at the Vernon Hall

Thursday 10th July 2025

@ 6.00 to 7.30 P.M.

**Agenda**

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| 1. **Introductions and Apologies** 2. **Present: Lambeth Council: Cherlyn, Frances, Andrew Anderson Asst director, Development Cllr Martin Bailey. Lindsey, Chris, Chris Naomi, Jerome, David,**   **Apologies: Peter Keal** |
| **3. New Temporary Carmelita Centre Update**  Andrew Anderson – Assistant Director: Development Programme explained the decision to review the re-provision of the Carmelita Centre  The project is on hold. The lease was not secured, although VGERTA was given the impression that it had been. Although the design was created, it is hard to justify the cost of the internal refit that will be required on the Estate.  The Committee argued that the Carmelita Centre adds significant value to the Estate in terms of social capital – places to go in emergency, when it’s too cold, too hot. When there is an evacuation ie due to a gas leak. Places to build community cohesion, Affordable hires to residents for christenings, weddings funerals and other community activities. The money from these activities was used to provide community activities to support Vauxhall Gardes Estate Residents. We had coffee mornings, councillor surgeries, time bank, sewing classes, yoga, fitness, spinning, gardening and community payback.  The rent on the Arch would be £57,000 per year for Arch plus the cost of the refit which is coming to £225k  The cost to bring the Carmelita centre up to fire regulations was 80-90k  The cost of portakabins on Tracey Island is currently unkown but these were ruled out because there are no services (ie water, sewage etc.) on Tracey Island and the cost of bringing those services across was prohibitive.  The committee was unanimous in their disappointment and frustration that so much of our time and effort has been put into securing the new centre and the abandoned Carmelita Centre has now been squatted so we may have lost a lot of our equipment in the meantime.  The Assistant Director: Development Programme agreed to meet with the tenants and residents in August to update about the situation. |
| **4. Approval for Jerome to spend Tesco Grant money on gardening project**  This is due to a technical requirement to provide a minute to the pre-payment card provider.  The Committee unanimously agree that Jerome Webb is authorised to order and pay for equipment under the Tesco grant to the value of £1,500. |
| **5. Date of Next meeting?**  **The 2nd Thursday in August is the 14th of August** |