

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTY SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
THE HAMPTON WICK ASSOCIATION  
HELD AT BULLEN HALL, HAMPTON WICK  
on Thursday 27 March 2014 at 7.30pm**

**Present:**

CHAIRMAN	Mark Merrington
SECRETARY	Fraser Wilson
TREASURER	Carol Dukes

and other Members, including Committee Members.

Apologies: Chris Drayson, Roger Hall, Anne Hardy, Catherine van den Broek and Tony Arbour. Councillor Arbour sent the following message: "Please give my apologies and thanks on behalf of the Council and GLA for all the HWA does for our community".

**Minutes of the 51st Annual General Meeting**

The minutes were proposed for acceptance and seconded and were approved unanimously. They were signed by the Chairman.

**Treasurer's Report**

Carol Dukes thanked Richard Pain for checking the accounts which were submitted to the meeting. She explained that the individual items shown were only the major items of income and expenditure, and that the opening balance was very slightly different to the closing balance in last year's accounts as we had reverted to calendar year accounts and the balance shown was as at 31 December 2012 rather than 14 December 2012. Both income and expenditure were up on last year with the closing balance for 2013 improved to £5,769.75 held at Lloyds TSB and £3,864.30 in National Savings.

Details are:

	2012	2013
Lloyds TSB Current A/C balance:	£ 4,963.34	£5,769.75
NS&I Savings A/C balance:	£3,835.53	£3,864.30
Income for the year:	£9,020.84	£10,179.11
Expenditure for the year:	£4,760.42	£9,343.93

We received additional grants from Richmond Council during this year for the summer festival and the Christmas tree brackets. On the expenditure side, we bought a number of non-recurring items including a gazebo (first used at the Christmas Carols), a folding table, banners and Christmas lights.

A question was asked about the need to submit our accounts to Richmond Council when applying for grants. Carol Dukes said that this was not necessary but the spending of the grant naturally had to be accounted for.

The accounts were adopted by the meeting.

**Chairman's Report**

The Chairman began by paying tribute to Pat Parsons who had died in May 2013. She was remembered as a staunch supporter and past Chair of the Association as well as a long-standing councillor who had been both Deputy Mayor and Mayor of Richmond.

The Chairman explained the difference between full (resident or working in the Wick) and associate (resident or working elsewhere) members. At present there were 116 subscriptions, 114 of whom were full members. There were only 6 business members, all of whom were full members.

The Chairman then outlined what the Association had done in the past year. Chestnut Sunday had gone well with the usual display of old photographs of the Wick. New members had been recruited and Ray Elmitt's history books had been on sale.

The major event of the year had been the Hampton Wick Festival in August. This had been organised around the closure of roads occasioned by the Prudential Ride London cycle race, intended to be a post-Olympic annual event. The impetus for a community based event had come from the Council. Mark Buckley and Carol Dukes had driven forward the idea of a grand parade. The event had gone better than anyone had hoped with local support from churches, charities and businesses and many and varied participants in the parade itself. Sharon Bastion had organised a craft fair and thanks were due to her and all stewards and helpers. Anne-Marie Meaney had also helped considerably with the organisation. Everyone involved received a round of applause.

In the Autumn, the Association held its delayed Fish and Chip Quiz Night. This was a very successful event held in the Hampton Wick Royal Cricket Club. Thanks were due to David Rees, the quizmaster, and again to Sharon Bastion.

The Remembrance Service, organised by Tom Furber at The Foresters and officiated over by Rev Jerry Field, had again been very well attended and the Chairman had laid a wreath on behalf of the Association.

The Christmas craft fair, organised for a third year by Sharon Bastion and Ronnie Finlay, had had a very good atmosphere – helped by the smell of the mulled cider being served up by Robbie of The White Hart. By then, the Association had put up 41 real Christmas trees up and down the High Street, having reinstated and repaired brackets. The cost-effective battery powered lights had been a good idea but there had been problems with the battery life. A solution was being worked on for Christmas 2014.

The Christmas carol evening fell victim to a torrential downpour, although many people had still turned out. The presence of members of Fulham Brass Band, some of whom live locally, had added to the occasion.

The Chairman then said that the Association did a number of things which it did not necessarily broadcast. He gave a few examples:

- ensuring the reinstatement of pigeon proofing at the station following its redecoration;
- ensuring that the War Memorial Gardens and King's Field remained locked at night;
- getting the council to reinstate road markings following road repairs.

The message was that if people saw issues of concern to the wider community where the Association might help, they should get in touch.

Roger Hall had been kept busy on planning issues. The main things had been a proposal for a supermarket at 210 Kingston Road and some significant development in nearby Teddington – the redevelopment of the studios and proposed hydro electric turbines. The latest thing was the plans for 6, 8 and 10 High Street where the Association wanted to know members views.

Anne Hardy had once again put a lot of work into the newsletters. There had been three editions in the past year with an increased overall page count and another already in planning. Anne was given a round of applause.

The Association's excellent website was down to Carol Dukes and Mark Buckley, who received a round of applause. Carol and Mark had been working on the Teddington Society's website and the Chairman welcomed Sheena Harrold of the Society to the meeting. He commented that the Association and the Society often had common interests and said that he would be attending the Society's AGM on 10 April.

The Chairman mentioned two other excellent events for which the Association could not claim credit:

- the exhibition and talk on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the railway put on in the library by David Turner and Ray Elmitt;
- the event to celebrate 150 years of the Cricket Club.

The Chairman thanked Keith Nicholls of the Cricket Club for suggesting that the Association use the Club as a venue for some of its own events.

The Association was now looking forward to events this year. Chestnut Sunday was on 11 May. The Hampton Wick Festival was being planned for 10 August. Other events such as the Quiz Night and Christmas events would take place as usual.

The Chairman mentioned also that, it being the centenary of the outbreak of World War I, his wife, Alison, was researching the names on the Hampton Wick War Memorial with a view to a possible event, website or publication in the future. Anyone with any information was asked to get in touch.

Finally, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and for supporting the Association more generally.

In follow up questions, a problem was raised over some pieces of recycling or rubbish being left scattered in the street after the collection. The Chairman agreed to take action on this with Richmond Council. Another question was on the plans for 6, 8 and 10 High Street. Also was there an old cinema behind the shops that would be affected? There was some confusion over where the cinema (or possibly studio) was. But an email will be sent out seeking views on the plans.

## **AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION**

On behalf of the Committee Mark Buckley proposed a resolution: *“that, recognising the action taken in 2013 by the Committee, the Constitution be amended by the*

*addition of the following new paragraph 7, and that the subsequent paragraphs be renumbered accordingly:*

*7. On an annual basis, when it considers it appropriate, the Committee will appoint a person of proven dedication to the Association to the post of Honorary President. The Honorary President shall be an ex officio member of the Committee for the year in which he/she is appointed. There shall be no limit to the terms for which an Honorary President may be appointed.”* This was seconded by John Previte and unanimously approved by the meeting.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

### **Resignations:**

The only resignation from the Committee was Michael Bower. All other members were presenting themselves for re-election.

### **Elections:**

Fraser Wilson proposed and Jenny Bourne seconded Mark Merrington as Chairman. He was elected unanimously. Mark Merrington nominated Fraser Wilson as Secretary and Carol Dukes as Treasurer and this was seconded by Jem Negus. They were elected unanimously. Jenny Bourne offered herself for election to replace Michael Bower and she and the current committee members were elected unanimously.

### **Any Other Business**

John Previte had read in the Richmond and Twickenham Times that Richmond Council was deducting funds gathered under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act from various villages to go towards work at Richmond Riverside. Councillor Nicholson had written to the newspaper objecting to this and perhaps the HWA should do so also on behalf of Hampton Wick. The Chairman agreed to look into this. Another member suggested that we needed to identify areas of benefit to local businesses if we wanted to attract more business members. Declaring an interest as Executive Director of the Jeevika Trust, Andrew Redpath suggested that the Committee look at advertising opportunities for businesses and charities. The Committee were congratulated on the successful summer festival and on the Christmas arrangements. It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the AGM should be held by 15 April each year which might attract more members because of the lighter nights. The Constitution is to be amended accordingly.

The Chairman drew the meeting to a close at 9.15pm with thanks to all for attending.

**Signed** ..... **Date** .....