

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE HAMPTON WICK ASSOCIATION
HELD AT BULLEN HALL, HAMPTON WICK
on Thursday 10th April 2025 at 7.30pm**

Present:

CHAIRMAN	Fraser Wilson
VICE-CHAIR	Mark Merrington
TREASURER	Carol Dukes
SECRETARY	Mark Buckley

and other members, including committee members, totalling over 40.

Apologies: John Previte, Barbara Haynes, Rev. Jeremy Field, Cllr. Robin Brown

The Chairman welcomed those attending commenting on the good attendance.

Minutes of the 61st (2024) Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 61st AGM were proposed for acceptance by Jenny Bourne and seconded by Chris Drayson and approved unanimously. There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman read his report as follows:

I have to first apologise for not being able to attend the AGM last year when I was elected Chairman. Thank you for electing me. It was always going to be difficult following on from Mark Merrington's successful 10 years and I am grateful to him for the support that he has given me.

I am delighted to say that our membership numbers this year are even better than last year. It is great that we have such involvement from the Hampton Wick community. In addition to being Vice Chair and various other roles I need to thank Mark Merrington for all the work he puts in as Membership Secretary.

As for events, we have had:

- The AGM itself - with, I am told, a very successful *Unusual Wine Quiz*. I hope that this year's *French & German* themed event will be just as much enjoyed.
- Our first Treasure Hunt – this was aimed at providing fun and also at helping participants to *Discover Hampton Wick*. Even some of us who have lived here for many years learned some new things. The very positive reaction from those who took part has meant that there will be another Treasure Hunt this year. My thanks to Mark

Buckley and Carol Dukes and an absolute army of volunteers for all the hours of work that they put in to organising the event and then running it.

- Library display – which consisted of photographs showing several of our shops in the 1970's and their appearance now.
- Remembrance Sunday – we again participated in this important community event and provided the marshals to ensure the safety of the procession to the Remembrance Garden and during the service. Thanks to Jem Negus and his team of volunteer marshals and to the others who helped by organising the temporary road closure and in setting up the Remembrance garden.
- The Christmas carols evening – As usual, this began with story-telling in Bullen Hall for the children and mulled wine and mince pies for the adults, then a procession down to St John's Place where, with the accompaniment of the Richmond Brass Band, everyone joined in the carols. And, of course, Father Christmas came along, giving presents to many excited children. Thanks to the committee members for their input into this with particular thanks to Margaret O'Connor for all her work on the children's presents. Thanks also to Richmond Council, who had helped prepare for the event by replacing the rather sad yew tree with a healthy-looking Christmas fir. As usual, we also decorated the village with small trees on wall brackets, festooned with lights, on the buildings. I am grateful to all the HWA volunteers who arranged this and ensured that everything worked.
- We did not participate in a much slimmed-down Chestnut Sunday that centred around D-Day celebrations. A larger event is being prepared for this year and we have been invited to get involved once more. We will be there.

Our campaigning work continued with:

- Discussions with Richmond Council on the proposals for the area around St John's Place. This went to consultation and plans were drawn up that now await financial allocation before finalisation.
- Some good input on the business side from David Tall, of Estate & Agent. Unfortunately he has now had to step back a bit because of pressure of work.
- Planning issues, as always, played a significant role in our work with Nick Baylis playing the major role. We need to thank him for his knowledge and experience in this sector as well as the work he puts in. Among the major issues of interest were: the former Kelly's Dance Studio where there have been continuing concerns over the build differing from the approved plans; Sainsbury's, now open, where planning permission was not required apart from for signage and licencing hours and where we requested a change to the proposed signage to make it more appropriate to the High Street; and Kingston Bridge House, where we had discussions with the proposed developers in advance of a public consultation. The outcome on this building remains uncertain. I can update you that the developers have invited us to a further meeting at which they will show us their latest proposals and we will of course report back after that.

I need to again thank all the editorial contributors and distributors – again all volunteers - who make our Magazine possible. Issues in March and October were very well received and a new magazine will come out shortly. Also on the paper-based side of our communications, we continue to maintain our three notice boards. We also have our electronic communications including the website, e-mail news, and the X (formerly Twitter) account. We have however now switched from X to Bluesky as we believe that to be more appropriate. I am grateful to our new member, Carole Reniero, who has volunteered to help with our social media output. As a result, we have recently opened accounts on Facebook and Instagram.

We decided that it would be good to find out a bit more of what our membership and others thought about the Association so organised an online survey. This achieved a very good response with general agreement that we were concentrating on the right issues. There were some useful suggestions that the committee are following up on. For example, we have added some new committee roles. And we very much welcomed offers to volunteer. Fear not, we are following up on these too.

I am most grateful to the committee members for all the work that they have put in over the past year. I should mention in particular Annie Murray and David Tall (who was co-opted on) for their very valuable input as they have decided that they must take a step back for the present and have therefore decided not to stand again.

We are looking forward to another year of events and activities and I am very heartened by the interest that is being shown by you, our members. Thank you.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Dukes reported on the accounts as follows.

	2024	2023
Opening balances	£9,598.65	£10,058.63
Total Income during the year	£7,580.41	£7,524.81
Expenditure during the year	£7,574.39	£8,804.79
Surplus / deficit for the year	£6.02	-£1,279.98
Closing balances	£9,604.67	£9,598.65
Pending payment adjustment	£-	-£820.00
End of year	£9,604.67	£8,778.65
<i>Friends of HWJ Library funds held in above</i>	<i>£859.53</i>	<i>£966.94</i>

Significant sources of income

Membership subs and donations	£2,206
LBRuT Town Centre Opportunity Grant	£2,000
LBRuT Grant for Xmas lights	£1,500
Advertising in Magazine	£1,458
Income from HWA events	£365
Sales of Commemorative map posters	£91

Significant items of expenditure

Christmas lights, & carols event 2024	£3,079	£1,544 will show in 2025
Printed newsletter magazines	£1,589	2x mags, print only,
Insurance	£637	delivery by volunteers
Know Your Place / Then & Now exhib.	£594	
Treasure Hunt expenses	£585	
Friends of HW Library	£107	garden & volunteer expenses

Christmas

Net deficit to the HWA, after £1500 of council funding, for Xmas 2024 was **£1,579.14**.
(2023 deficit: £1,968.97)

Friends of Hampton Wick Library

	£966.94	balance brought forward
Expenses during 2024	£107.41	
	£859.53	balance carried forward

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Chris Binge, seconded by Liz Tapp, and approved unanimously by the meeting. The meeting thanked Andrew Stanley for checking the accounts.

Independent examiner

Andrew Stanley was proposed for this task again for the coming year by Jem Negus and seconded by Peter Buckley. This was approved unanimously.

Election of Officers

Fraser Wilson stood for re-election as Chair. He was proposed by Chris Drayson and seconded by Liz Tapp. The meeting voted unanimously to elect Fraser as Chairman.

Mark Merrington stood for re-election as Vice Chair. He was proposed by Annie Stevens and seconded by Alison Merrington. The meeting voted unanimously to elect him as Vice Chair.

Carol Dukes stood for re-election as Treasurer. She was proposed by Jacquelin Magnay Brown and seconded by Lina Graham. The meeting voted unanimously to elect her as Treasurer.

Mark Buckley stood for re-election as Secretary. He was proposed by Karen Saywell and seconded by Chris Drayson. The meeting voted unanimously to elect him as Secretary.

As there were fewer candidates than positions for committee roles, no vote was required and the following candidates become committee members:

Nick Baylis
Jenny Bourne
Catherine van den Broek
Margaret O'Connor
Dave Rees
Liz Tapp

Any Other Business

The forthcoming loss of Bushy Park Police was raised by Maria McManus.

The HWA had helped to promote the consultation on the matter. It was suggested that the matter be raised at the forthcoming PLG meeting [St Mary's Church Hall, Teddington, Thursday 12th June 7.30 - 9pm].

It was emphasised that it is important that any/all crimes (including drug issues) should always be reported. The local Neighbourhood Watch email address is: hamptonwick@met.police.uk, telephone: 0207 175 9430.

Paul Moore asked for an update on HWRCC's replacement pavilion.

Nick Baylis replied that there has been an evolution from the 'four blocks' to something that looks more like the old pavilion.

Information was also sought on the latest position regarding Kingston Bridge House.

Nick Baylis reported that not much had changed although it was expected that there would be an application for a hotel with approximately 90 rooms and additional residential accommodation. It was expected that there would be a public consultation/exhibition by the developers (Westcombe) followed by the formal submission of a revised planning application.

An update was sought on last year's parking consultation.

Cllr Millard replied that he expected Council letters to be sent to residents imminently.

Jenny Bourne proposed a vote of thanks to the committee.

An attendee told the meeting about forthcoming screenings of short films on the theme of peace.

Peter Buckley queried the three large and unsightly bollards placed in front of the driveway of one of the cottages on Sandy Lane.

No-one was sure but it was felt that the change had come about following the passing of the previous resident.

Liz Tapp reminded the meeting that Bullen Hall is now a great local facility and encouraged everyone to use it more.

Iain Burgess commented on how nice the Twinning flags in the hall were.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.16pm and was followed by a French & German themed quiz.

Signed **Date**