



## **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2006**

Richmond Hill Terrace Residents Association:  
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## **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE THIRTEEN MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006**

The members of the Committee have pleasure in presenting their report on the affairs of the Association, together with the financial statements for the 13 months ended 31 December 2006.

### **Corporate structure**

Richmond Hill Terrace Residents Association is an unincorporated body governed by a constitution adopted on 1 December 2005 and revised on 27 August 2006.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of the Association are

- a. To safeguard and promote the legitimate interests and to protect and enhance the environment of the residents of Richmond Hill Terrace;
- b. To foster and to encourage the growth of community spirit among the residents of Richmond Hill Terrace.

### **Governance**

The management of the Association is exercised by members of the Committee. Members of the Committee are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election.

### **Committee members**

The members of the committee who served during the period were:

Andrew Coleman (from 01 December 2005)  
Vanessa Gouws (from 20 December 2006)  
Terry Johnston (from 01 December 2005 to 21 October 2006)  
Yvonne Loftus (from 22 February 2006)  
Katherine Loynes (from 01 December 2005)  
Ronan McCarthy (from 01 December 2005)  
Howard Roffey (from 22 February 2006)  
Deborah Stevens (from 22 February 2006 to 9 December 2006)  
Anthony Pope (from 01 December 2005)  
Tony Taylor (from 01 December 2005)  
David Vinograd (from 21 October 2006)  
Gill Willson (from 01 December 2005)

### **Review of developments, activities and achievements**

#### Introduction

The germ of the idea of the Association had been brewing in a number of people's minds for nearly a year before its formation in the Autumn of 2005. The need for the Association was driven by two separate factors. Firstly the living environment for the residents of our part of Richmond Hill seemed to be adversely impacted by a number of issues that could best be addressed by an organised grouping of residents. Secondly there was a need for a way of bringing neighbours together socially and encouraging a greater spirit of real community.

There had been an informal grouping of residents many, many years ago but the lack of formal structure meant that the grouping had been fragile and it did not endure. This time the Committee believes we have just enough formality in our structure to ensure that the Association should be able to maintain its momentum.

The Association exists to reflect the concerns of its members and support by local residents is vital. To date we have been very heartened by the extent of our support. We have 61 households as paid up members which represents the great majority of the properties in owner-occupation in our catchment area.

### Our work

The Association cares about our locality - its local character, quality of life and community

#### *Local character*

We are enormously fortunate to live where we live; in the vicinity of one of the great iconic views in England. It is not "our" view - it is a national treasure. We had great hopes of the London's Arcadia project work on Terrace Walk and Terrace Field in 2005. It is sad that the very people who we hoped would protect and enhance the view have damaged it by inappropriate tree-planting through failing to recognise the important "Big Sky" views. We have been in regular contact with the Arcadia team and other Council personnel during the year to encourage them to realise that mistakes have been made and that these need to be addressed.

The campaign for the removal of the newly planted trees will continue in 2007 and move into a new phase.

Fortunately the Council is approaching the refurbishment of Terrace Gardens in a wholly different way and are positively encouraging local involvement in the formulation of their plans. We have a representative sitting on the Consultative Group. What we have seen to date of the plans seems sensible and practicable within the budgetary constraints the Council is working under. The Gardens are, however, on the site of former clay pits and is subject to subsidence. We have asked the Council why no structural survey is being carried out to see how the Gardens can be stabilised before the refurbishment work is carried out.

We have been promised new street-lighting along the top of the Hill to match the heritage lighting installed along Hill Rise and the lower slopes of the Hill. We will be following up progress on this in the new year.

#### *Quality of life*

Efforts during the year have been focussed in a number of areas to seek improvements in the quality of life of local residents. Set out below are just four examples of our work:

Firstly we have been liaising with Thames Water about the problems of low water pressure that have adversely affected many residents especially, but not exclusively, those living on the upper floors. Water pressure has generally been better in 2006 than 2005 although there have been problems on some days. The area will always be prone to problems since, on the top of a hill, Thames Water is reliant on pumps to get water up to us and any disruption to the pumps (for example a power cut) inevitably results in a drop in pressure. We will be continuing to monitor Thames Water's performance in 2007.

Secondly traffic. We are concerned about the excessive speed of some cars along the Terrace. After a major accident involving a car travelling too fast to turn the corner, the Council have recently replaced the "chevrons" on the corner of Richmond Hill and Friars Stile Road to indicate that there is a sharp bend. Whilst this is a welcome move, we believe that action needs to be taken to slow the traffic down along the Terrace before someone gets killed. We are in discussion with the Council who are presently carrying out a traffic survey. We want the traffic slowed but not by humps or other methods that are likely to create as many problems as they solve.

Thirdly parking. Although the area is part of a CPZ (controlled parking zone), anyone can park in the residents' spaces after 6:30 and during weekends. This means that the spaces are often full at the very time residents most need them. We are in discussion with the Council, which has agreed to look at the situation in the new year.

Fourthly and by no means least, security. We have recently set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

#### *Community*

Through social events and regular communications we aim to bring a stronger sense of community and neighbourliness. Participating in the Association is a way to get to know our neighbours better and to help build a sense of local community.

The Committee running the Association is set up on the basis that we try to secure Committee members who can represent and liaise with groups of Association members living in different parts of the Terrace and Terrace Lane. This ensures that we keep close to our membership.

In the period we have held the first of our twice-yearly parties. Over 100 people enjoyed a party and barbecue in the back garden of Stuart Court on a wonderful summer day. It was an opportunity for people to meet old friends and to make new ones. Our Winter Party is scheduled for 13 January 2007.

We also started our newsletter Terrace Views, which is issued every couple of months. This is emailed to our members with hard copies delivered to those who prefer this method of distribution.

We also have a website but conscious of the *Marie Celeste* nature of many websites (i.e. the site exists but is never kept up to date), we took a conscious decision that the site would be for reference purposes only. Accordingly it exists to answer the question "What is the Association and what does it do?" since we believe that the news service to residents is best provided by the newsletter.

#### **Financial review**

Income for the period comprises subscription income of £305 plus raffle donations of £140 less expenses of £240 leaving a surplus of £205 to be carried forward. The Association's net assets of £205 comprise cash at bank of £435 and creditors of £230 in relation to the expenses incurred. The Association has benefited from a number of kind donations of materials and raffle gifts and this has helped keep our costs down. The financial position is considered satisfactory and it is the Association's intention to keep subscriptions to a nominal level.

The level of income and expenses is such that the Committee does not believe that it warrants having the Association's accounts examined by an independent examiner.

#### **Risk management**

The major risks to which the Association is exposed, as identified by the Committee, have been reviewed during the year and the Committee is satisfied that action has been taken where appropriate to manage those risks.

By Order of the Committee

2 January 2007

**The Richmond Hill Terrace Residents Association**

**Statement of financial activities for the 13 months ended 31 December 2006**

	<b>2006</b>
	Total
	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>	
Subscription income	305
Donations	140
Events	-
Total incoming resources	<u>445</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>	
Website	60
Stationery	180
Events	-
Total resources expended	<u>240</u>
Surplus for the period	<u>205</u>
Opening fund balances	-
Closing fund balances	<u><u>205</u></u>

**Balance sheet at 31 December 2006**

	<b>2006</b>
	£
<b>Current assets</b>	
Cash at bank and in hand	435
	<u>435</u>
<b>Current liabilities:</b> amounts falling due within 1 year	
Creditors & accruals	230
	<u>230</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>205</u>
<b>Fund</b>	
Retained surplus	205
	<u><u>205</u></u>

Approved by the Committee  
on 2 January 2007

**Accounting policies**

Income from subscriptions and donations is recognised when received.  
Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis