

Thorpe Ward Residents Association

AGM 3rd April 2017

Treasurers report

For the financial year ending 31st December 2016 the Association had £3837.79 in its accumulated fund which an increase of £171.57 (4.7%) compared with 2015.

Subscriptions and donations were slightly down, £1473 compared with £1580 (2015) but the good news is that in these figures Subscriptions were up at £980 compared with £872 (2015) so the reduction in Subscriptions & Donations comes mostly from a drop in Donations.

We also saw a reduction in our share of the costs of producing the "Thorpe Together" it decreased to £1733.72 compared with £1906.89. You will notice that "Thorpe Together" appears on both sides of the accounts under Income and Expenditure and they do in fact balance themselves out, this is because "Thorpe Together" is not part of the T.W.R.A. but we are using T.W.R.A. account to settle all the invoices and receive payment from other contributors and advertisers.

Turning to the Expenditure, this has decreased by a greater amount than the Income. Income had dropped by £780.17 (mainly as 2015 accounts had a donation of £500 from Councillor Yvonne Ley) whereas the 2016 Expenditure has dropped by £1117.57. This greater decrease in Expenditure is due in the main to four items, all showing a decrease in costs, Ward Planters down by £465.02, TWRA Thorpe Together costs down by £194.33, Election Expenses down by £146.39 & overall costs of Thorpe Together down by £173.17.

Overall the accounts show a turnaround from 2015 which recorded a small loss of £165.83 to a small profit in 2016 of £171.57.

Also in 2014 we introduced a scheme where residents who joined and paid after mid-October, their contribution also covered their membership until 31st December the following year, this accounts for the £120 of Pre-Paid Subscriptions. It is intended that this will occur each year as an offer to Residents.

I would like to take this opportunity to urge all members to pay their 2017 subscription if they have not already done so and consider setting up a Standing Order for 2017 payable in the 1st two months of the year This will easy collection and reduce my trips to the bank and save you postage, so basically everybody wins.

Looking forward to 2017 we already know that our expenditure should be slightly lower as there is no elections for our Councillors in this year as the elections are for the Surrey County Councillors instead.

Final note if you have not already given us your email address please do so, as this is really the only way we can contact you, to advise you, of interesting events and points of concern.

We are steadily growing our membership base and as at the end of the 2016 year we had 284 members of which 134 had already paid their 2017 subscriptions. Our Mail Chimp information system now has 209 email addresses, which is good but if you are a member and have not been receiving these messages and you have an email address we can use, please let me know so I can increase our coverage of news distribution. 39 email messages were out sent out in 2016 covering a variety of subjects from Potential Scams, to Road Works and Closures, to Events happening in the Ward and the Runnymede Electronic newsletter.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking Robin Doran for his patience and understanding whilst he audited our accounts.

Community Gardening Group

On a separate note completely away finance, we did start towards the end of 2016 with the support of Runnymede Borough Council a Community Gardening Group, this sounds as if we are running allotments, but in fact our aim is to tidy up the village public areas, I know that some of you will believe that this is the councils job, but a) the council do not live in Thorpe & 2) their resources are stretched beyond belief.

We meet once a month for about 2/3 hours and have in the past cleaned up the War Memorial area the day before Armistice Sunday, the Animal Pound of weeds and cleared the roundabout by CEMEX of weeds and moss.

Our first day in 2017 was the Sunday 12th March where we attacked the hedge running alongside the pavement near Cottage Farm Way, as well as keeping an eye on the areas already down in 2016.

Should anyone wish to join us in our efforts please contact me either later on this evening or email me on TWRA@Patenall.org.uk or phone 01932 560459

Any Questions?