

TRESA Annual General Meeting

13 December 2006

Greg's Café, Wells Road, Totterdown

Present: Tim Sterling (Chair), Helen Sterling, Patrick Hulme, Suzanne Audrey, Ed Bramall, Margaret Davies, Kate Pollard, Steve Sayers, Claire Radford, Teri Davey, Alexa Cook, John Bowen, Richard Jones, Geoff Davies, Jo Connell, Martyn Trowbridge, Conny Kowalezyk, Colin Bird, Jenny Street, Marilyn Webb, Annie Mortada

Apologies: Jonathon & Chloe Wright, Tim Hill, Jane Borgoyne, Barbara Van Der Eerden

Welcome

The meeting opened at 8.40 pm. Tim welcomed all present to the first TRESA AGM and outlined the business that needed to be completed. Being the first AGM held, there were no minutes of previous meetings to approve.

Annual Report

Tim presented the annual report for TRESA (Appended to these notes and available at www.tresa.org.uk)

Treasurers Report

Margaret presented the accounts for the past year. TRESA has received income to the value of £1,402.06 from a combination of subscriptions, advertising revenue, sponsorship, grants and donations. The main expenditure has been on printing The Talk of Totterdown with additional expense on insurance, administration and publicity. TRESA's current bank balance is £90.32.

Election of Officers

TRESA's committee consists of nine posts. All are re-elected each year. This year nine nominations have been received, meaning that all officers were elected unopposed. The elected officers are tabulated below.

Post	Candidate	Proposed By
Chair	Tim Sterling	Helen Sterling
Vice-Chair	Suzanne Audrey	Helen Sterling
Secretary	Steve Sayers	Tim Sterling
Treasurer	Margaret Davies	Clare Radford
Membership Secretary	Ed Bramall	Pete Daly
Officer (1)	Helen Sterling	Tim Sterling
Officer (2)	Patrick Hulme	Geoff Davies
Officer (3)	Kate Pollard	Helen Sterling
Officer (4)	Richard Jones	Margaret Davies

Motions

No motions were submitted to the meeting.

Close

The formal part of the meeting closed at 8.54 pm. An informal discussion around local issues ensued.

TRESA Annual Report

TRESA came into being on 25th November 2005 with the following objectives:

(a) to secure for the benefit of Totterdown residents the preservation, protection and improvement of the built and natural environment in the area of Totterdown in Bristol; and,

(b) to encourage, support and promote social events and activity within Totterdown and the involvement of Totterdown Residents in such activities.

TRESA was launched with members planting a hedgerow alongside the wall between the Wells Road and the Oxford Street houses that back onto it. Cllr Christopher Orlik had organised this planting and both he and Dawn Primarolo MP joined us for the occasion.

The committee has met on a monthly basis over the past year and as membership has steadily increased (to 70) we have recently alternated between committee meetings and meetings held in local public venues and open to the whole membership. The increasing involvement of the membership has been very welcome and has highlighted local concerns and initiated new activities.

Four editions of 'The Talk of Totterdown' newssheet have been produced and delivered to every Totterdown household and we have received very positive feedback about this.

'The Talk of Totterdown' has been complemented by the development of the TRESA website (www.tresa.org.uk) which has also helped to keep local residents up-to-date on various local issues and initiatives. TRESA has a dedicated letterbox at the Patco supermarket and we are also contacted by residents via the website.

During the year, TRESA has kept an eye on local planning applications and has supported the attempt to get Zone N (the park outside the YMCA building – also know as Totterdown Green) registered as a Town Green (and thereby protected from developers). TRESA also organised a highly successful garden festival and gardeners market on Totterdown Green during the summer and were in attendance during Art Trail events held on the Green during November.

In addition to Totterdown Green, TRESA has undertaken an extensive survey of local people's views about Totterdown Square (the paved area outside Tesco). Whilst there are significant concerns about this area, various improvement strategies seem possible and very positive contact has been made with councilors, police, local businesses and land owners. We are optimistic that, with the continued involvement of the membership and wider local community, we can help with the renovation of this area.

The proposed Bristol Arena has continued to intrigue, attract and unnerve Totterdown residents. Although information has been extremely difficult to obtain, TRESA has established contacts with key people involved in the proposed

development. We have also undertaken an extensive and impartial Totterdown-wide survey about the Arena (information about this survey and the Totterdown Square survey are available on the website). Despite the continued uncertainties about the development, TRESA has established views, aspirations and concerns of Totterdown residents. The people responsible for the development are aware of the survey and seem to be taking us seriously.

TRESA members and other Totterdown residents have also campaigned to ensure the minimising of noise and other pollution associated with the Waste Transfer Stations in St Phillips (these are overlooked by properties at the top of the Bath Road 'cliff').

Similarly, TRESA members have also drawn attention to the ever-present and sometimes dominating effects of heavy commuter traffic in and through Totterdown. This is a huge issue and TRESA intend to explore ways in which we can involve the community in identifying key issues, developing viable improvements and engaging the Council in constructive discussions.

More recently, TRESA members have investigated the possibility of bringing redundant allotments next to Bellevue Terrace back into use. Work continues on this and it is possible that the land could become a community garden.

TRESA exists in order to help local residents in tackling environmental and social issues. The committee are extremely pleased with progress during our first year and we are optimistic about TRESA's prospects.