

# Hulme Tenants Alliance

c/o Hulme Library,  
Hulme Walk,  
Hulme,  
Manchester M15 5FQ

The Hulme Tenants Alliance was formed on Tuesday 25th September 1984 at a joint meeting of existing Hulme Tenants groups. Such joint meetings had taken place for some time and it was felt that to establish an "umbrella" group to share information and support action on Hulmewide problems would be of benefit to us all. The joint tenants meetings were being serviced at the time by the newly appointed Tenants Liaison Officer for the area, who was present at this meeting and actively supported the tenants wishes on setting up this new group.

The Alliance meets on average once a month, at different venues throughout Hulme, and is regularly attended by members of 4 or 5 Hulme tenants groups. We realise that we cannot represent all the tenants in Hulme and have never claimed to do so, however all meetings and events are widely publicised and are open to anyone who wishes to attend. The Alliance will offer support to any individual tenants group who asks for it, as demonstrated in recent months by Alliance members attending various Aquarius T.A. meetings with the Hulme Project Team to discuss the proposed redevelopment of Hulme 3.

Since the Alliance was formed it has been involved in many campaigns of major importance to Hulme e.g.

## ASBESTOS

Informing tenants about the risks of asbestos and how to avoid potential hazards in the home, doing widespread leafleting and organizing public meetings with videos, speakers etc. to get across to tenants the dangers. We have worked with the Asbestos Removal Unit to ensure that work is carried out to safety specifications. Several members of the Alliance are on the national working party of P.A.A.C (Peoples Asbestos Action Campaign ) and attended their recent conference in Sheffield.

## HULME FORUM

Attempting to set up a forum of accountability for the Hulme Project that would be acceptable to a broad cross section of Hulme tenants.

## GRIEVANCES

Collecting various points and complaints from tenants about the Hulme Project and trying to get these worked through by the council.

## SOCIAL STRATEGY

Discussing the implications of the redevelopment of Hulme, what it will mean to the community and the social issues above and beyond those of bricks and mortar.

## COMPENSATION

Working with council officers about what the new compensation ruling will mean in practice to tenants.

## COCKROACH CAMPAIGN

This is a new campaign to deal with the issues of disinfection and attempting to get the council to stand by their commitments on this problem.

The Alliance has received funding from various sources in the past, including The Tenant Participation Unit, Housing Dept. and Leisure Services and this has enabled us to carry out much of this work. These grants have been used for administration and publicity, mailing information out to groups, printing Tee Shirts and hiring a coach for a big asbestos lobby of the House of Commons, doing our own fundraising and social events.

In recent years the Alliance has co operated with the council on several different issues. At the time of the Hulme Conference several members of the Alliance put in a great deal of time organizing workshops, the plenary session and generally publicising the event. The Alliance was involved with the early discussions on what the Hulme Project should be and developing and pushing ideas on how its work should continue. For a long time the Alliance has assisted the council by distributing information from the Town Hall to tenants.

Considering the work that the Alliance has done and continues to do for the community in Hulme we find it very difficult to understand why Councillor Darby refuses to acknowledge us as an "accredited" tenants association, especially as we have received funding from the Housing Dept. The Alliance has received full support from the Hulme councillors, including Val Dunn, Deputy Leader of the Council, and from other council officers. We feel that as an elected member of the council Mr. Darby is obliged to do likewise. It seems to us that in the face of Tory threats of privatisation etc. we need to show a united grouping of tenants and council, not the division that occurs at present due to Councillor Darby's persistent refusal to recognise the Hulme Tenants Alliance.

The Alliance is understandably disturbed that much of the time we have spent fighting for recognition could have been spent fighting the real problems that face Hulme at present, and find it grossly unfair that they should be singled out like this when other alliances in the city are recognised e.g. Wythenshawe Tenants Forum, as are the various tenants associations that make up the Hulme Tenants Alliance. Councillor Darby is reported to have referred to us as a Political Group, not a tenants group. Although we are not sure what he means by this, we cannot help but feel that many of the issues at stake are political, and if fighting for tenants in Hulme to get the best possible services from the council makes us a political group then so be it.

The Alliance would like to ask, in the light of the above information that ..... gives us their full support and will put pressure on Cllr. Darby to do likewise.

NOTES OF JOINT TENANTS ASSOCIATION MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 1984, 7.30 PM  
AT ST LAWRENCES CHURCH HALL, HULME

<u>Present:</u>	Mrs Berry	}	
	Mrs Cryer		
	Mr T Massey	}	Shawgreen Tenants Association
	Plus other representatives		
	Neil, Bridget	}	Hulme Repairs Committee
	Sally, Mavis, Geoff,		
	Mr Herd, Mrs Gunn	}	Aquarius Tenants Association
	Julia Block		
			Tenant Liaison Officer - Housing Dept

Julia welcomed everybody and asked if anyone wished to chair or take the minutes - but no offers were forthcoming! She asked if anyone had any items for the agenda which were as follows, (taken at random).

1. NAME OF THE GROUP

Neil proposed that the name of the joint tenants association's meeting be "Hulme Tenants Alliance". Agreed by all.

2. INVITATIONS TO H.T.A. MEETINGS

Julia raised this item to clarify position of the group. It was agreed after some discussion that:-

- a) If individual tenants associations wanted to invite people to talk at group meetings they must raise it at meetings first. This would ensure there is general agreement by all to extend an invitation to an outside person.
- b) It will be up to the individual groups to invite people to speak.
- c) If there was a need to invite people in between meetings, it was agreed, if possible, to telephone round T.A.s to get agreement.

Julia to provide list with 'phone numbers of each T.A. Also agreed to provide general list of useful telephone numbers.

Neil raised the question of numbers and attendance from each group as quite a lot of people from Shawgreen Tenants Association were present.

Mr Holmes said he felt that we should not limit numbers but we should, in fact, be encouraging people to come to meetings. If a decision had to be made the majority would carry. Agreed.

3. REPORT ON HULME

Mr Herd (Aquarius T.A.) said that his understanding of part of this report was that a multi-storey block may be given over to housing young single people. Aquarius were not in favour of this and said that the Alliance should oppose it. Bridget said she was not sure about the objection but would like anyway to discuss the matter further with other members of H.R.C. and come back with a view.

Agreed that each T.A. would discuss individually and we would have a collective discussion at next H.T.A. meeting.

#### 4. DISCUSSION DAY - 28TH SEPTEMBER 1984

Julia outlined the plans for the Discussion Day at which tenants, staff, unions, councillors would get together and discuss tenant participation in the Housing Service. Bridget said could the groups please have information earlier if future conferences were proposed.

#### 5. INFORMATION FROM H.R.C.

Bridget wanted to make two points concerning

- i) Hulme Conference
- ii) Minister's visit.

Bridget said the above two were supposed to co-incide but the conference date had now been changed and was to be in the new year.

For Ian Gow's visit, various meetings between all the groups had taken place to discuss and plan. Six thousand leaflets had been distributed and a survey of H3 had been done. It was planned to give Ian Gow a copy. Photos had been taken of inside some of the flats plus photos of external structural faults.

Bridget gave a run-down of the timetable for the visit, which included a session with Hulme tenants in the library. It was proposed to allow each T.A. ten minutes to speak. Neil read out a statement which was to be read out on behalf of all tenants - everyone agreed this was very good. Dates of further meetings concerning the visit were also given out.

#### 6. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 20TH November - 7.00 pm at Hulme *Area 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100*

#### ITEMS FOR AGENDA

Project Team

New house building in Hulme (at junction of Loretto Pub) ???

*ick of Tenant housing office*  
*Asbestos*  
*Laundries*

← CHICHESTER RD

RE-ICE RD