

## **OKMT Property Search to date:**

**(please note that in addition to the studio at no 3 Twining Ave we also use the UR church on Twickenham Green for Music School lessons, and Newland House School Music Department on Saturdays)**

### **Properties visited (through local estate agents):**

16 A London Rd – viewed by us, Skylarks and Richmond Mencap – deemed unsuitable for use by charities who all work with vulnerable members of the community. It is located on a main road, the space had lots of stairs inside, the layout would have needed completely refurbishing and it was very expensive!

15-19 York Street – this was deemed unsuitable (before my time)

49-53 York Street – viewed by Skylarks, Richmond Mencap, RHLT, RUILS, RCVS as a possible charity hub. This space wouldn't have worked for us – we wouldn't have been able to have therapy/studio rooms here and make noise. It offered open-plan office space and it was hard to envisage how it would work for all of the charities together.

1 Ilex House Twickenham – this was just not going to work as we make noise and we would have been taking one part of a building alongside other companies. It would have to have been completely soundproofed.

Schurlock Place – this space was the ground floor of a small office block. The whole place would have needed to be divided into rooms and soundproofed. Very expensive too.

Hampton Rd – property had potential, but once the landlord discovered that we made noise he wasn't able to pursue things with us as there are neighbours upstairs and noise would have disturbed them

17-19 Princes Rd - a new development near Twickenham Green – It was a beautiful space but had not been designed with music therapy/school in mind. No possibility for people in wheelchairs to get upstairs – which would have been the main studio space, not enough parking space outside and not appropriate for vulnerable adults to access parking space in minivans.

Teddington Business Park – too small and landlord was not prepared to change the front door to be wheelchair accessible for our clients

The Boathouse – (through Skylarks) in the end this wasn't visited as the landlord said that they feel that charities can take on the rent, and were not interested in negotiating with us.

### **Community Centres (all visited):**

Bullen Hall – The main room is just too large to be used as a music therapy room

Crane Community Centre – Great space, all booked up through during the week.

Murray Park Hall – Good location, however the main space is a very large hall, which is just not suitable for music therapy or for Music School. As it is used a nursery during the mornings it is not really available to us. It would need completely refurbishing if we could use it.

Ham Youth Centre – great space but booked out most of the times that we would want to use it.

Castelnau Community Centre – the main space that we could use is upstairs, however sound would travel to the rest of the building and it is only free at a few moments during the week.

Hampton YMCA White House and Hampton Youth Project – there are some great spaces here, but there are no rooms available consistently throughout the day. We were only given external rental prices and it is very expensive. They were not sure about us making noise during the daytime.

### **Schools:**

St Mary's School – there is 1 possible room in the former unit here that could be used after school time, however there are no musical instruments and rent is v high. It would need to be emptied for us to use it and that is not possible as the space is used during the day by the school.

Gumley House School – said no

Richard Reynolds – happy to hire out space after school but only at official rental rates.

Stanley School – has a Centre next to it that is perfect for OKMT. Due to the current situation of Scamps being unsure about their future the school is unable to discuss this with us. They do have some rooms they could hire to use after school time at normal rental rates.

### **Other venues:**

Teddington Social Club – this venue has the potential to be attractive to us, however it needs to be majorly refurbished, and it currently doesn't really work for us (it has one main room and one office space downstairs). No great interest from their side to pursue things.

Twickenham Brunswick Centre – They were keen to discuss but they are essentially used as a sports centre and couldn't really see how our activities could run alongside theirs.

Twickenham Studios – said no, they didn't want to hire out space to a charity

Clarence House Hampton Hill – given to a local prep school

RHAC – some rooms are free here during the week, however they are not sound-proofed so we could potentially disturb the whole college and the hire rates are very high. There is no

room/s free for a whole day and available on a regular basis. The studio space they did have available wasn't for long enough for our Music School lessons.

The Exchange - We visited when it had only just opened and they had already started to take bookings so nothing was available on a regular basis. Once we started talking about having a space on a regular basis and having a piano in one or two rooms they got cold feet and didn't want to pursue things with us. They only wanted to hire the space out at their normal rates.

### **Churches:**

We have been in touch with many churches in our local area but nowhere has any spaces available consistently throughout the week. All have activities taking place in their rooms at different times.

All Hallows Church – they only space here is a side room off the main church. Access is only through the church and the acoustics are not good at all. It is not a feasible space for us to use due to access and use of the church.

Igreja Assembleia de Deus Vida Nova – they do not have the capacity for our sessions