



WARDLE SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd June 1993 at 7.45pm

Present: Anne Lines, Margaret Pearson, Sylvia Lear, Ann Southerton, Ivan Rhodes, Councillors Ashley Dearnley and Bernard Schofield, Sgt Nicholson and Mr Hardy, Mr Flintoff and Mr McDonald (RMBC).

Apologies: Michael Fitton, Tom Seed and Councillor Beryl Wright.

The minutes of the last meeting, 6th May 1993, were accepted with two amendments: Apologies from Councillor Ashley Dearnley
Visit to Ironbridge is on the 25th July not 26th.

Matters Arising:

- a) Policing in Wardle - Sergeant Nicholson told us that two Police are allocated to Wardle, but at present one is on a self defence course. When asked about the use of Specials he said that it was restricted to about 4 hours per week. Problems in the centre of Littleborough take priority at the moment for all policing. We will write to Chief Constable Wilmott at Chester House and to Geoffrey Dickens M.P. to try to get manning levels increased.

Parking on Ramsden Road opposite the junction for Cook Street Palettes was mentioned, the highways department are looking at the problem with the possibility of using double yellow lines for about 15 yards even though the local residents have no alternative parking.

- b) Village Green - Mr Hardy explained that options on how to deal with the problem will be outlined at a public meeting to be held on Thursday 1st July at 6.15pm in Wardle Library.

Mr Kearsley has been approached and he would like to buy as much land as he legally can. Mrs C Jackson (8 Wardle Fold) and Mr P Jackson (6 Wardle Fold) have also been consulted and they have title to the bulk of their front gardens, even though the Village Green plan goes up to their front walls. The Documentary title extends to all but a small amount of about 17 square yards, therefore there is a need to consider their right to this. The owners of 21 Wardle Fold also own most of their garden except for 10 square yards and this also needs to be considered. Only 250 square yards of Village Green can be disposed of and after considering the 27 square yards mentioned that would mean a possible 223 square yards for the Kearsleys with another 27 square yards to be under licence. The difference between leasing and licencing was explained, in that a lease would be for 999 years and there would be a restriction that the land would remain a garden and under a licence the land would still remain Village Green but could be used as garden.

Colin Flintoff has talked to Groundwork about tidying the area - funding will be needed - some marker will also be needed to let people know that it is a Village Green - perhaps a cairn or a sundial. The area could be grassed and cut occasionally by the council, with shrubs by the wall and possibly daffodils. A final decision about the use of the Village Green will be decided after the legal matters have been sorted out.

- c) Visits - the visit to York was cancelled because of lack of support. The visit to Ironbridge on 25th July will leave at 8.00am, the cost being £6.00 for adults and £4.00 for children. Names to be put on the list in the library as soon as possible please.
- d) Anne Lines attended the Inauguration of the joining together of the Methodist and Church of England congregations in Wardle on 28th May.

Secretary's Report -

We have received a letter from Councillor Ashley Dearnley to say that the Committee have refused Planning Application no. D29146 for Residential Development off Bank Barn Lane

Any Other Business

- 1. Anne Lines has had a note from Mike Farrell (Littleborough Society) that money is available for upgrading footpaths and he is contacting other groups to arrange a meeting. Councillor Ashley Dearnley said that quite a lot is being done in this area already.
- 2. The Unitary Development Plan for Rochdale has been received - Anne Lines has had a look through and Wardle is not really affected.
- 3. Wardle Skyline - we will contact Mr Roskill for an update, in September or October, following our meeting with him in December 1991.
- 4. On June 24th there was a Pennine Area meeting (RMBC) at Littleborough High at 6.15pm. Matters concerning Littleborough, Wardle and Smithybridge will be discussed. Ann Southerton and Margaret Pearson will attend and Wardle Society will pay for a taxi for them.

Planning applications will be made locally from October.

The next meeting is the AGM on Thursday 8th July at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 10.25pm.