

Sae Southwood

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8.15-7.00 Answerphone
Sylvia

WARDLE SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting held on April 6th. 1995.

Present: A.Lines; S.Lear; A.Southerton; M.Pearson; J.Roberts; B.Clifton;
B.Wright; A.Dearnley; A.Kenyon; PC.Hutchins; C.Flintoff; M.Giles.

Apologies: C.Darnbrough; M.Fitton; B.Schofield.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved with the addition of
C.Darnbrough to the "present" list.

Matters Arising.

1. Britain in Bloom. Chris Flintoff (Recreation and ^{Community} ~~County~~ Leisure Services, RMBC) and Malcolm Giles (Countryside Officer), reported on the availability of resources from RMBC for environmental improvements, form the "Britain in Bloom" project. £5000 is available borough-wide, and an additional £5000 from the Pennine Township; which we could bid for. Direct Services prices for provision of two half-round, self-watering hanging baskets with over 20 plants and erection on site is £95. Funding from local businesses etc. is unlikely as many believe that they would be targets for vandals. Wooden planters from the town centre are being replaced; we may be able to acquire several of these.

the Committee feels that 2 areas could be improved with their help: (a) the area near the library/roundabout at the junction of Birch Road and Ramsden Road and (b) Wardle Square (present planting/cobbles in a poor state).

* Malcolm Giles will return next month with some definite proposals. Grass verge at the bottom of Crossfield Road is the subject of dog fouling and an alternative to grass was discussed. The possibility of a dog "toilet" in the village was also discussed but no decision was made.

Boundary edges to the recreation field are overgrown and should be included in the regular mowing schedule: C.Flintoff will look into this.

Wardle High School pupils have planted 500 trees in Ashbrook Hey valley: more are to be planted in the Autumn. They will also be doing a "clean-up" in the valley in environment week.

2. Police Matters. Special "youth annoyance" squad and Tactical Aid Group have been up at week-ends to trouble spots in the village. Now have priority of taking names of children concerned if they are seen 3 or 4 times "up to no good" and a letter sent to their parents. A register of names is kept for bad behaviour, drinking in the street and "mouthing-off": one 14 year-old was found smoking cannabis. Special constables have also been on duty. The "Ark" bus (religious denomination) was sited near Cornbrook Close but youths attending caused annoyance to residents, and it has now moved back to Birch Road.

3. Oral History Project. Bernice Clifton will be project leader and several members will assist her. They will meet as a subgroup. Objective is to create a Wardle/Watergrove sound archive by recording information and memories of residents and ex-residents of the area, for future use.

Short term aim is to complete as much interviewing as possible by November

After 6 months, appraisal and long term aims will be discussed by the full committee.

Ground rules:-

- a) a copy of every tape will be made available to N.West Sound Archive (body funded by Lancs.CC and Manchester University).
- b) N.W.S.A. training, guidelines, expertise and proforma to be used.
- c) Decide on attainable goals before moving on to another stage.
- d) Achieve highest standards possible in the project.
- e) A copy of their tape given to each individual contributing material.
- f) Interviewers agree to:-
Take part in training with N.W.S.A. (provisionally on 20th May 9.15am. - 1pm. at Scout HQ. Wardle.) *Cancelled*
Give a time and personal commitment to the 6 month interviewing period.
Annotate the tape in a manner agreed by the group.

Funding:-

Tape recorder and two microphones provided by Pennine Township Fund. Tapes, library cases batteries for microphones, etc. purchased approx. cost of £40. Additional £50 allocation approved by Committee. Any further funding would need approval

4. Insurance of equipment belonging to Wardle Society

Photocopier presently sited at Secretary's home, covered by home insurance. Permission to site photocopier in Library given but cost of insurance prohibitive. R.M.B.C. asked to include it in their insurance cover but we are still awaiting reply. Ashley Dearnley will follow this up

Disclaimer form produced for use when anyone has Society equipment in their possession, agreeing to use at own risk and accepting responsibility for it. Date of return needs adding to the form. One copy for borrower, one for Society.

5. Listed and historical buildings.

Letter received from Mr. Wolfenden (Planning) about proposed demolition of Methodist schoolroom, which is within the curtilage of a listed building. Letter sent from Society expressing concern that another historically significant building is being lost, through neglect, from the Conservation Area. A Council group has now been set up, including Cllr. Dearnley, with particular concern for listed buildings. A letter was also received from Mr. Wolfenden re; planning brief for St. James' C.E. Church (now redundant). The Church is also disposing of fittings and fixtures; - Bell to St. John's Failsworth, oak altar, to Manchester City College. Reredos, choir stalls, communion rails and pulpit (destination unknown). The official notice regarding the disposal was put up on the church noticeboard dated 26th March but was blown off on 28th. We shall contact Mr. H. Iles, P.C.C. about this, and the destination of some of the items.

6. Historical side of Society. To be discussed at our next meeting.

7. Water Treatment House Photographic record. Site meeting held attended by committee members and rep. from N.W.W.A. Much of equipment now removed but internal structure of building felt to justify keeping a photographic record. Will wait to see photos taken by A. Southerton and B. Clifton before deciding

whether professional photographs would be worthwhile.

8. Agenda 21 meeting Town Hall 23rd. MARCH

A. Southerton attended as representative for Wardle Society. Aim is to promote sustainable development and local authorities are obliged to draw up a plan by 1997 to facilitate this. R.M.B.C. has decided to get interested bodies together to co-operate in forming local authority policy. This first meeting was to set up a steering committee which will decide on further meetings and agendas and will report to the Environment Committee in 6 months' time. Ann will continue to represent W.S. at future meetings of the Agenda 21 forum.

Treasurer's Report

See attached balance sheet; - (cover leaf)

A laser print of an historically interesting painting relating to the local area was obtained by B. Clifton for £3 (Original owned by B. Gregson.)

Secretary's Report

Letters sent to Planning Dept. R.M.B.C.:-

D31656 Residential dev, Ashbrook Hey area (green belt corridor)

D31649 Change of use, Industrial to residential, Water Treatment House, Watergrove.

D31750L.B. Demolition of Methodist Sunday School.

Letter sent to Pennine Township giving undertaking that equipment for oral history would be made available to other groups within the Township.

Letters Received

From Mr. Roskill re Hades Hill ceasing operation

From Mr. Roskill re conservation area, listed buildings and planning brief for St. James' Church

From Town Hall re meeting Agenda 21.

From Civic Trust for Annual Membership renewal

Tape recorder and microphone received from Canford Audio

AOB.

1. Pennine Bridleway... talk at Coachhouse Littleborough arranged by the Littleborough Civic Trust; attended by A. Lines and B. Clifton and J. Rickards. Project organiser Sue Hogg doing a great deal to conserve ancient packhorse routes as well as improving/renewing bridle routes throughout South Pennine area.

2. Entrance to Birch Hill Hospital: stop sign needed for traffic entering Birch Road from hospital grounds. A. Dearnley will investigate.

Meeting closed at 10.35 pm.

Next meeting 4th. May 1995 at 7.45pm.

P.T.O.

Treasurer's Report 6.4.95

N.R.B.S: Tree Account	252.92	
Society Account	258.91	
	511.83	
Cash on hand (incl £30 withdrawn)	<u>61.31</u>	
	<u>573.14</u>	

Balance at 2.3.95		576.43	
Received:			
Photocopying	1.05		
Subs	15.00		
Trees	5.00	<u>21.05</u>	
		597.48	
Expenditure:			
Postage etc	3.24		
Receipt book	1.10		
Civic Trust Reg	20.00	<u>24.34</u>	
		<u>573.14</u>	

Membership

Ordinary	28	
Pensioner	26	
Junior	1	
Corporate	2	
Life	<u>3</u>	
	<u>60</u>	Increase of 7 from last month

Next meeting 4th May 1995 at 7.45pm