

# WARDLE SOCIETY

Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 1998

**Present** :- J Rickards (chair) Sylvia Lear (treasurer) Carolyn Gibson, Ashley Dearnley, Julie Roberts, Ann Southerton, Bernice Clifton, Beryl Wright.

**Apologies**:- Barbara Fitzsimons.

**Minutes** Of the last meeting (4/6/98) were accepted with the addition of reference to discussion about the footbridge at Rydings Dam mentioned in matters arising.

## **Matters arising**

Councillor Dearnley has received a letter from Tim Woods ( Rights of way officer) About the above Footbridge suggesting that it would not be possible to go ahead because of the landowner's past lack of co-operation. Councillor Dearnley offered to contact the landowner to find out his present views.

Footpath 139:- Councillor Wright reported that the Pennine Township Manager is still trying to locate a source for funding. However major problems remain because of the evident ownership of the land. Julie reported that the nettles still need cutting and that old fencing has not yet been removed. Councillor Wright offered to follow up on those two aspects of the situation.

## **Treasures report**

see attached

## **Planning matters**

None relevant have been noted

## **Any other business**

It was agreed that we should finalise a new leaflet about Wardle Society at the next meeting and include a subscription/membership form on it.

Wind Turbines:- We discussed the articles which have appeared in the Rochdale Observer (on 24/6/98) and the leaflets being delivered to residents by Renewable Energy Systems Ltd. i.e. the firm which intends to apply for planning permission to build many turbines on Great Moor (near Watergrove) and at Bacup. The application is likely to be made to RMBC in September. Considerable concern was voiced at this impending planning application.

Agreed that Wardle Society will support Littleborough Action Group and Littleborough Civic Society in their opposition to the proposal to build highly- visible wind turbines on the moors above Watergrove and Wardle. We hope all members will respond to the Rochdale Observer's "Readers campaign against Great Hill Wind Farm", as this project will affect every resident in Wardle. NB. The Society is in close contact with other groups opposing this application and will discuss any information from these groups at our next meeting. If you are concerned, please come to the next meeting.

We discussed a suggestion that over the next year the society looks at ways of providing "Blue Plaques" in the village to commemorate particular buildings or people significant in Wardle's history and development. Bernice and Julie offered to present an initial suggestion list, of about 12 such places and people, for discussion at the next meeting. We can then begin a process of asking members for their ideas and information.

Next meeting **Thursday 27th August 1998 at 7.30pm** in Wardle library

**Please attend, and give your views on the Wind Turbine proposals**