

Wardle Society

** NEXT MEETING
THURSDAY
10TH FEBRUARY 2000
7.30PM
ALL WELCOME **

Minutes of meeting held 25 November 1999

Present :- Jane Rickards, Sylvia Lear, Julie Roberts, Bernice Clifton, Barbara Fitzsimons, Carolyn Gibson, Sylvia Herbert, Rita Cushen, Sean Cushen.

Apologies: - Ashley Dearnley, Beryl Wright.
Welcome to Sylvia Herbert.

Footpaths: - An article outlining the issues connecting the footpath and school safety, and a letter from the society, were published in the Rochdale Observer on 13/10/99. A letter was received from R. Coburn (Senior Technician, Traffic) dated 30/7/99 stating that our request for a pedestrian railing had been referred to the Pennines Township Committee. He noted that funding will probably not be available in the present financial year.

We agreed this matter must be pursued further, through the new Pennine Township structure and meetings. Another letter to R. Coburn to be written requesting information on progress and the regulations about such barriers.

Conservation Area: - Wardle Fold cottage: - no change evident in this situation. It was agreed Rita will write to Tania Hindle expressing our concern at the seeming lack of progress in the situation and our concern at winter conditions causing more damage. She will request a reply and up-date and ask if the council will consider legal ways of recouping some of the many expenses incurred.

St. James Church: - Pennine Township has given money towards the feasibility study on St. James church.

Stream: - agreed we write again requesting remedial work on the footpath. Sylvia will push the issue.

Village green: - EVERYTHING on the village green (apart from the trees) has been cut..... We should perhaps describe this as radical pruning on the green.

Cenotaph: - The Tree officer has said that the trees are not in danger of falling. A wreath was laid on behalf of the society.

Christmas tree: - has been placed in the square and the lights are ready. No other decorations or lights are visible yet.

Pennine people binder: - Still being circulated.

Treasurer's report: - See attached.

Planning: - Nothing to report.

Jane will investigate the two matters referred to in the last minutes regarding Wardle Road.

Carolyn agreed to push the hanging basket and plant issues in the village.

Any Other Business:-

a) Jane and Bernice attended the Pennine Township meeting on 14/10/99. This was called to explain how the new Council structures work, to clarify what is been aimed at, and to discuss what informal Township meetings are needed to involve Pennine people in making local decisions. It was a well attended and positive meeting. A report of that meeting is enclosed with these minutes.

A subsequent meeting was held on the 17/11/99 in Milnrow and we hope to have more information on this soon.

b) Carolyn reported on the meeting held in St. James School on 7/10/99. It was well attended (50 people?) but not as packed as an earlier meeting about the bus situation. The meeting was chaired by Ted Rogers; Police representatives, Youth workers, our M.P. Lorna Fitzsimons and local councillors were also present.

There was a lot of discussion about the level of Police involvement in the village and about the way some people felt that there was a negative environment in the village now.

Outcome:-

- Youth workers will be consulting with young people to discuss their needs.
- a youth group for younger children will be held in the school.
- Wardle High School facilities offered for use by the community
- a group " active in the village" is needed.

Our discussions: - We appreciated Beryl reminding the audience that a village group does exist, and has negotiated many positive changes in the village.

Concern that some of the young people in the village are felt to be "Threatening" in whatever way people see it.

Agreement that the above feeling is possibly not as widespread as may have been suggested at the meeting - but a matter of concern, irrespective of actual behaviour. The village is for living in, and enjoying by all the residents whatever age.

It was agreed we must work towards making more of an impact in the village.

We try to complete a directory of village services, businesses and groups and distribute this to ALL residents, to encourage everyday use of the village. We will meet at 310 Ramsden Road, on Thursday 27th January 2000, at 7.30pm, to plan how to do this. Please join in with practical and realistic ideas and methods.

Next Meeting: - 10th February 2000 7.30pm Wardle Library. All Welcome.