

Wardle Society

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 7th October 2010

Present: Jane Rickards, Sylvia Lear (Treasurer & Vice Chairman), Ted Bolton, Steve Barlow (Minutes Sec. & Web Site), Cllr. Janet Darnbrough, Eddie Rogers (Sec), Barbara Fitzsimons, George Caygill (Chair).

Apologies: Cllr. Ashley Dearnley, Cllr. Robert Clegg and Iain Bentley.

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as correct.

Police Report: There was no police representative present at the meeting, and no apologies or crime figures had been received even though reminder emails had been sent.

Cllr Janet Darnbrough had previously asked PC Chambers if in future 'Wardle only' crime figures - as opposed to the 'Wardle and West Littleborough' figures could be provided. He said this could be done, however we have not seen any evidence of this yet, as no figures at all had been supplied by the Police this month.

Treasurers Report: Sylvia presented the report shown below.

TREASURER'S REPORT 7.10.10

Deposit account:	1366.42	Balance at 2.09.10	1424.11
		Income: Interest	0.09
Current account	12.18	Subs	8.00
			<u>8.09</u>
Cash on hand	<u>11.37</u>	Expenditure: Website (6/9/10 – 6/3/11)	1432.20
			<u>42.23</u>
Total	<u>1389.97</u>		<u>1389.97</u>

Sylvia reported she has now tidied out our Filing Cabinet that is situated in the Community Centre, and handed it over to the Wardle History Group.

Sylvia has also arranged for the Watergrove Commemorative Wood Book that was in the Library, to be given to the Wardle History Group for safekeeping.

Sylvia told the meeting that she would be sending out Membership Renewal Forms to last years' members who had not renewed their subscriptions as yet for this year.

Planning: No-one had anything to report.

Wardle Society Web Site: 945 'hits' to the website since it started.

Steve has returned to Sylvia the Wardle Society minutes (1991 to 1997) that were 'missing' from our web site. He has scanned them all and uploaded them accordingly.

St James' Churchyard: The whole of the graveyard (front and back) has now been cleared of all the overgrown weeds etc. by the Probation Service's 'Community Payback Team'

We are led to believe that Cllr. Dearnley is currently negotiating with the same group for their continued long term maintenance of the graveyard.

Footpaths: Unfortunately Barbara has not had time yet to clarify the letter we have received from David Brennan, Rights of Way Officer – in reply to our concerns over the access and availability of Footpath 15 – Barbara hoped to sort this out in the next couple of weeks.

The replacement steel footpath bridge at Law Flats has not as yet been replaced, but we are advised it is in the 'pipeline'

Steve asked the meeting if anyone had a copy of the Public Footpaths Map for the Wardle area as he would like to put a copy on our web site. Jane volunteered to lend Steve a copy she had.

Barbara thought that it would help keep the footpaths from overgrowing if the Children from Wardle St James' School were to undertake regular footpath walks. Eddie offered to take a copy of the Footpaths Map into School and discuss it with the Staff concerned.

East Street: The 'No Through Road' signs have still not been erected, but as far as we believe it is still on the Council's 'jobs to do' list.

United Utilities Substation: The United Utilities (UU) Substation at the junction of Wardle Road and Birch Road is still overgrown, despite UU being contacted by Cllr. Janet Darnbrough and others in the last 4 weeks – She reported that they had said they were having problems with their contractor, however she is going to continue her attempts to have it cleared and tidied.

Eddie has emailed the UU Wayleaves Officer regarding the Licence they want Wardle Society to take out in respect of the Notice Board in UU Substation grounds. In the letter he outlined the fact that the Notice Board was not owned by Wardle Society, but that it was first erected we think by the old Wardle Urban District Council back in the 1960s and that it was a village/community notice board.

Eddie informed the meeting that he had not yet had a reply. However before these minutes had been produced and distributed, he received a reply from Katreena Carr saying that she will contact Rochdale Borough Council to discuss the matter with them, and contact him again in due course.

Wardle Recreation Ground: Regarding the 'missing' 2 metres of metal fencing which is part of a fence which surrounds the children's play equipment area – Cllr Janet Darnbrough reported that the repairs had now been authorised by the Pennine Councillors.

Street Potholes in the Wardle Area: Steve read out part of an email he had received from Iain Bentley of the Township Office:

“We understand current pothole works are planned to start in the next couple of weeks and be completed by the end of November, subject to weather. If there are any major potholes without white painted markings then please let me know the location and we will report them to highways for repair. Minor repairs and resurfacing are part of a longer programme that will be surveyed after the new year (probably Feb/Mar) for approval, then repairs during the Summer 2011”

Road Grates/Gullies: It had been noted that the blocked road gullies in fact had been cleared around 2 weeks ago but because of the large amount of rain that had fallen over the previous weekend - many have become blocked once more.

George informed the meeting that one drain in Wardle Square has not been cleared for a long time due to the fact that it was hidden by debris etc. George offered to EXPOSE this drain by clearing the debris away with a spade.

Cllr Janet Darnbrough offered to report the blocked gullies/drains once more.

Replacement Waste Bins: Cllr Ashley Dearnley had reported to Steve that the poor condition and shortage of waste bins in the Wardle Area could be resolved now due to the fact that the finance could be met from an Environmental Fund.

Grit Bins: Steve read out part of an email he had received from Iain Bentley of the Township Office:

“Grit bins are part of a Winter Maintenance programme that we were informed would be with Township Committees earlier this year. I understand there have been unexpected delays due to changes in compiling the installation and maintenance plan, re-assessment

of the costs and suppliers, and the potential change in budgets. The lead contact for the coordination of the bins is Gillian Lees, Maintenance & Street Lighting, IMPACT, Municipal Offices, Smith St, Rochdale (tel 01706 92 4681). Her line manager is Jonathan Hartley, Team Leader, same address”

Steve volunteered to locate damaged/broken Grit Bins around Wardle Village and pass the info. on to Cllr. Dearnley

AOB

'North West In Bloom' competition: Iain Bentley (Pennine Office) has been invited to Southport on the 21st October 2010 with regards to the ' North West In Bloom' competition which took place earlier this year, and the Pennine Township had entered. No further details are available at this stage.

Remembrance Sunday – Wreath: Ted informed the meeting that he would be once more responsible for acquiring a Wreath for Remembrance Sunday in November.

The Meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Next Meeting:

Thursday 4th November 2010, 7pm at the Globe Inn

****NEW MEMBERS ARE ESPECIALLY WELCOME****

www.wardlesociety.org.uk