

THE LADBROKE ASSOCIATION

The 24th Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday, 16th June, 1992
at 59a Portobello Road, W 11

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Chairman : T Pakenham

1. Apologies : G Mayers R Meadows C Porteous

The Chairman welcomed everyone at the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting :

Corrections - under "last year's events" the lecturer was Brent Elliott, not Brian.

The Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising :

None

4. Chairman's Report :

Events - Events during the past year had included a lecture by Ms Henrietta Phipps on trees in the Ladbroke area. This had been followed by a Question Time with a panel including the Council arboriculturist, his secretary, Derek Austin and our Chairman. This had been a successful evening.

The summer walk to be held on 2nd July and led by Ms Phipps had been arranged.

Information Pack - This was almost ready to distribute, thanks to the help of C Cohen, J Martineau and S Enthoven. The Jack-daw envelope covers a dozen topics, including Do's and Don'ts, hints on stucco, how to get grants, etc. The purpose of this pack is to advise newcomers before their builders get to work, on various aspects of the buildings in the area. One thousand sets had been printed and were available to members for £1. and those attending this meeting were encouraged to give a pack to any newcomer in their vicinity.

The main building issues over the past year had been :

(1) Undercroft at St John's church. We had been anxious about the external appearance being spoilt by modern additions, such as ramps, etc. With the help of a consultant, the Association had persuaded the Council not to accept the original plan, and the second plan was an improvement. Our intervention had made a crucial difference.

92 Elgin Crescent - Plan for extending the building over the garden. Despite objections by the Association and vociferous local opposition, this proposal was allowed, creating a very bad precedent.

In the Spring, three members of the committee met the new Chairman of the Council's Planning Dept, Andrew Fane, Miss Dent, other members of the Planning dept, with English Heritage London Division executives. Details of this would be in the next issue of the News Letter. Many burning issues were discussed, including forecourt parking, restoration of mouldings, gap-filling, listing of buildings, looking after stucco work on backs as well as fronts of houses. Most of these are considered 'permitted development' which is the suspension of all planning permission on so-called minor issues. But the system was not working; suspension of planning permission in a conservation area led to all sorts of disasters.

London Conservation Conference - This was to be held in November and many powerful organisations, such as the Georgian Group, Victorian Society and English Heritage would attend, as well as a representative from the DoE and the theme would be our need to change the existing system of permitted development in a conservation area.

5. Adoption of Accounts :

The Hon Treasurer explained the accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 1992. The subscriptions, the main source of income, represented about 306 members, including family membership. It was hoped to attract more members.

The item of 'donations', ie £1,160. 00 was rather misleading as this included half-shares from local residents, as their contributions to consultants' fees when fighting planning applications.

Expenditure included an amount of £2,491. 00 under "Consultancy fees" of which £528. 75 was the residents' contribution. Under the item 'Meetings', the sum of £120.92 included hire of the hall for the AGM, lecturers' fees, etc.

Bank charges at £66.13 were high. A suggestion from the floor to transfer our account from bank to building society would be considered.

Cllr Campion proposed that the accounts be accepted. This was seconded by Mrs D Ward.

6. Election of Officers and Committee :

The names of officers due to retire but offering themselves for re-election were :

T Pakenham, I Grant, R Meadows, P Post, B Ellsmoor, J Martineau,
S Enthoven

These were all re-elected, Cllr Campion proposing and J Lever seconding.

The Chairman explained that he had come to the end of his three-year stint and hoped to hand over to S Enthoven, who had been deputy Chairman over the last year. S Enthoven agreed and J Martineau proposed and C Cohen seconded that S Enthoven be appointed Chairman.

Cllr Campion gave a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman, commending all his hard work over the three years, particularly the forthcoming one-day conference in November which he had organised and the meeting with Council Planning officers which would lead to closer liaison over planning problems. There was much applause. S Enthoven seconded.

S Enthoven took over the chair.

7. Any Other Business :

News Letter. There had been some delay but it was well in hand.

Red Routes. Cllr Campion explained about the recent proposal to make Holland Park Avenue into a red route. There was some anxiety about this, particularly among local shopkeepers with the loading difficulties which a red route presents and also by local residents who feared more off-street parking along minor residential streets behind.

It had been felt that there should be proper enforcement of parking restrictions already in place with single and double yellow lines. The Norland Society, the LA committee and the Council who, with their member of Parliament, saw the Minister for Transport in London, succeeded in persuading him that the red route scheme would not work here or in the Fulham Road. The proposal is not to go ahead. This was good news.

Cllr Campion announced a garden party given by the Pembridge Square Society on Saturday, 20th June, from 6 - 8. Any visitors would be welcome.

Information Packs. There were still some items which were incomplete. Anyone requiring more information was advised to get in touch with S Enthoven at 15 Ladbroke Square.

Hon Secretary. There is no-one in this post at the moment and it was felt that it was not necessary. However, the wording in the Constitution must be amended to take this into account and this will be submitted to the next AGM.

Cllr Campion thanked all the Committee members for their hard work over the year and the meeting ended at 9:15. Afterwards, Mrs Sue Cohen gave a most interesting talk on famous residents who had lived in the Ladbroke area. This was very well received.

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