

THE LADBROKE ASSOCIATION

The nineteenth Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday, 24th June 1987 at 8.30 pm at St John's Parish Centre, 2 Lansdowne Crescent.

Chairman : Richard Bird

1. Apologies for absence : Linda Kelly, Hon Secretary
Lord + Lady Bonham-Carter
Miss Rendell
Miss V Wallace

Welcome to guests :

Mr Sanders, Borough Planning Officer
Councillor Brian Levett, Vice Chairman of the Town Planning Committee
Councillor David Campion, Joint Representative of the 3 Associations in the Conservation area, Norland, Pembridge and Ladbroke, to the Council's Town Planning Advisory Sub-Committee

2. Minutes :

The Minutes of the last AGM were approved + signed.

3. Matters Arising :

The subjects of estate agents' boards and lamp posts were to be discussed later under Any Other Business. There were no other matters arising from the Minutes of the previous AGM.

4. Chairman's Report :

As the Chairman's Report appears in full in the News Letter recently circulated, the Chairman dealt briefly with the various points. He explained about the changing role of the Association, the formation of working parties and sub-Committees, the first to examine the Association as a whole and the latter to examine the town planning applications, lamp-post replacement in the area and to research into more technical subjects, such as the maintenance of stucco. He explained about the increase in subscription (this subject was also discussed later) and referred to the current planning applications, eg Bowley Clinic, assuring the Meeting that the Committee were watching closely all developments.

No 15 Kensington Park Gardens where established hotel use has been approved since 1946 has caused some concern now that it is to be converted into a hotel and restaurant; loss of residential privacy at the back, excessive excavations, etc have stimulated many letters of protest. It was learned that the alterations have been unacceptable and new plans and drawings are to be submitted.

Lansdowne Court ; the latest news is that the appeal has been disallowed.

Kensington Temple : an on-going problem but it was hoped that the work would soon be finished.

The Chairman regretted that pressure of work prevented him from serving the rest of his 3-year term and having consulted past

THE LADBROKE ASSOCIATION

The nineteenth Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday, 24th June 1987 at 8.30 pm at St John's Parish Centre, 2 Lansdowne Crescent.

Chairman : Richard Bird

1. Apologies for absence : Linda Kelly, Hon Secretary
Lord + Lady Bonham-Carter
Miss Rendell
Miss V Wallace

Welcome to guests :

Mr Sanders, Borough Planning Officer
Councillor Brian Levett, Vice Chairman of the Town Planning Committee
Councillor David Campion, Joint Representative of the 3 Associations in the Conservation area, Norland, Pembridge and Ladbroke, to the Council's Town Planning Advisory Sub-Committee

2. Minutes :

The Minutes of the last AGM were approved + signed.

3. Matters Arising :

The subjects of estate agents' boards and lamp posts were to be discussed later under Any Other Business. There were no other matters arising from the Minutes of the previous AGM.

4. Chairman's Report :

As the Chairman's Report appears in full in the News Letter recently circulated, the Chairman dealt briefly with the various points. He explained about the changing role of the Association, the formation of working parties and sub-Committees, the first to examine the Association as a whole and the latter to examine the town planning applications, lamp-post replacement in the area and to research into more technical subjects, such as the maintenance of stucco. He explained about the increase in subscription (this subject was also discussed later) and referred to the current planning applications, eg Bowley Clinic, assuring the Meeting that the Committee were watching closely all developments.

No 15 Kensington Park Gardens where established hotel use has been approved since 1946 has caused some concern now that it is to be converted into a hotel and restaurant; loss of residential privacy at the back, excessive excavations, etc have stimulated many letters of protest. It was learned that the alterations have been unacceptable and new plans and drawings are to be submitted.

Lansdowne Court ; the latest news is that the appeal has been disallowed.

Kensington Temple : an on-going problem but it was hoped that the work would soon be finished.

The Chairman regretted that pressure of work prevented him from serving the rest of his 3-year term and having consulted past

Chairmen, it was suggested that P Thorold take his place for the coming year. Cllr Campion reminded the Meeting that the Constitution required election of a Chairman to serve 3 years. It was decided to defer this discussion until (6) Election of Officers.

5. Treasurer's Report :

The Hon Treasurer, Peter Austerfield, presented the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 1987. These showed a surplus in the year of £117. 24, partly due to increased subscriptions, and also to some amounts relating to 87/88 being banked in 86/87 and so appearing in this year's accounts. He explained that the increased subscription to £5. pa would now cover satisfactorily the higher expenses of postage, printing and secretarial services and allow a healthier financial state. He detailed the various items on the Statement, explaining about donations, bank services, etc.

The discussion about membership, subscriptions and Cllr Levitt's summary of the Council's view on the Association's approach re planning applications, etc. will be found under (8) Any Other Business.

The adoption of the Accounts was proposed by D Campion, seconded by D Marshall. The Chairman expressed the gratitude of the Association to the Hon Treasurer and the Hon Auditor for all their work during the year.

It was proposed by C Cohen, seconded by R Meadows that Guy Mayers should be re-appointed as Hon Auditor.

6. Election of Officers :

a) Chairman :

P Thorold explained about the role of a Chairman over a 3-year period, the desirability of new residents /Committee members to be involved and the limits of time on busy people. He suggested that as an interim measure, a past Chairman be elected for a 1 yr period. D Campion proposed, D Evers seconded P Thorold as Chairman for one year and this was carried by the Meeting.

b) Hon Treasurer :

Peter Austerfield had served 4 years and would stand down. Paul Bastick was proposed by R Meadows, seconded by C Cohen, and carried by the Meeting.

c) Hon Secretary :

Owing to family illness, Linda Kelly had submitted her resignation. Marguerite Evers was proposed by P Thorold, seconded by R Meadows and was elected .

7. Election of Committee Members :

There were 3 vacancies
Evelyn Jakim proposed by P Thorold and seconded by T Pakenham
Linda Kelly proposed by D Marshall, seconded by M Evers
P Austerfield proposed by P Thorold and seconded by D Marshall
R Bird proposed by D Marshall & Seconded by M Evers

8. Any Other Business : Membership/Subscriptions

In reply to a question about membership, the Hon Treasurer estimated this stood at around 400. There were no figures for what proportion of members owned their houses, or rented. A member pointed out that subscriptions of the Ladbroke Square Association had been raised to £40. pa with concessions to OAP's and long standing residents. He thought that as our area was now more prosperous, our subscription of £5. was too low. Both the Chairman and Hon Treasurer made the point that they did not want to lose membership through high subscriptions; contact with residents / members was the mainstay of the Association. 3/4 of the Meeting expressed by a show of hands their approval to raising the annual subscription to £10.

Professional Consultant :

D Marshall urged the meeting to consider an increase in subscription to £15. as a Fighting Fund. He said we should be aware of the changing aspect of the area, and the need to be vigilant as building developers and house converters did not have the needs of the area in their priorities. We could be called the First Garden City and we should strive to maintain its integrity. He proposed the community should act as a whole, linking with Norland and Pembridge Associations and that our Fighting Fund should be used to employ a professional consultant who would represent our interest, attend meetings, research, learn from other Boroughs, about a wide variety of subjects, such as windows, traffic problems, as a whole. This Fighting Fund could also be used to support the Council in appeals.

Cllr Levitt was asked to give the Council's view. He said that an Association of 400 members would receive as much attention as a body, whether professionally represented or not but a professional consultant would contain objections to those only valid on planning grounds which are the only ones which the Council can consider. Letters from individuals were heeded by the Council. He stressed that it was not in the Council's interest nor its habit, to object to appeals out of hand and that recommendations from the Society were always seriously considered.

On the subject of delays, C Cohen remarked that it was sometimes 3 months before the first site visit. Mr Sanders explained that as listed buildings were in several categories, delays were often due to consideration by different bodies, eg the English Heritage.

Lamp Posts : P Thorold expanded on his report in the Spring 87 News Letter. Much concern was expressed about the choice of lamp posts, whether a scheme could be implemented whereby residents could share the cost, and what design an ideal lamp post should be. Too many different lamp posts would cause extra expense with spare parts. D Campion announced that a decision had recently been taken by the Council on the design of the lamp post. A Discussion took place about canvassing opinion and writing to the Council to advise them of residents' views.

Change of Editor of the News Letter :

Thanks were expressed to C Cohen for his work as editor and to R Meadows for his help. R Bird was now replacing C Cohen as editor.

Questions from the floor:

D Campion asked Mr Sanders to explain the procedures of enforcement. Unfortunately, delays occurred because of shortage of staff, he said, in the Council's response to complaints and approaches. He described the stages of a Stop Notice and details of retrospective planning permission and public enquiry.

Street Lighting :

New lights in Holland Park Avenue between Notting Hill Gate and Ladbroke were suspended on wires in the middle of the street. Asked whether this method was likely to be used elsewhere, Mr Sanders explained that in this case, this method avoided the necessity of cutting back drastically the trees on either side.

Estate Agents' Boards :

Mr Sanders explained that boards do proliferate though agents are supposed only to have one board per sale. This was difficult to enforce. Special powers had been invoked to ban boards altogether in sensitive areas such as Royal Crescent, Queens Gate and Cornwall Gardens. The Secretary of State is to be approached for authority to ban boards in further areas including the Ladbroke area.

Stanley Crescent :

The residents have appealed for echelon parking in Kensington Park Gardens but the fire brigade and police are against the idea. It has been suggested that the pavement where Stanley Crescent meets Kensington Park Gardens be enlarged and trees planted. This idea could not be implemented if there were vaults beneath the pavements. The Committee would discuss it.

Stanley Crescent - cherry tree :

A member protested vehemently about the cherry cut down in the garden of 2 Stanley Crescent by Mr Haggerty. It was explained that no blanket preservation existed on trees although many in the area were preserved. C Cohen suggested the Association could assist the Borough in identifying trees in need of protection. It was noted that before protests could be noted, a tree could be cut down. The fines from magistrates were too small to deter a wilful builder.

Flats above Kennings Garage, Holland Park Avenue :

A Percival pointed out that the flats above Kennings Garage were in a deteriorating condition. The Committee will discuss.

1/3 Stanley Crescent - erection of dome on roof :

R Meadows explained that planning permission had been sought but the final dimensions and shape should have been different.

14 Ladbroke Square :

Application for extra floor . The Committee will keep an eye on this.

9. Concluding Statement from P Thorold :

A vote of thanks was given to R Bird the retiring Chairman and delight expressed that he would be taking on the editorship of the News Letter.

The Chairman felt the meeting had been a good one and useful suggestions and ideas had come forth which the Committee would carefully consider. The changing role of the Association was very much in everyone's minds and close contact would be kept with the members of the Association.

Thanks were given to Mr Sanders and Cllr Levitt for giving up their evening to talk to us and also to those present for attending.

(Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page)



(Faint, illegible text)

(Faint, illegible text)

(Faint, illegible text)

(Faint, illegible text)

(Faint, illegible text)

(Faint, illegible text)