

THE LADBROKE ASSOCIATION

The 12th Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on Monday June 23rd 1980 at the Knights of St. Columba Club, 11, Lansdowne Road. Mr. Ian Grant was in the Chair.

MINUTES had been circulated, and were approved and signed.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

According to the Constitution of the Association, Mr. Grant's three year term of office came to an end at this A.G.M. and the Committee had nominated Mr. Peter Thorold, and he was elected unanimously as Chairman.

LETTER FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT.

Mr. Angus Stirling, the Vice-President, who was unable to be present, sent a letter to express the Association's appreciation of Mr. Grant's invaluable work as Chairman for Ladbroke. He had taken over, as Vice-Chairman, following the sad loss of Professor Carus-Wilson early in 1977, and was elected Chairman at the A.G.M. later that year.

He mentioned the achievements during Mr. Grant's term of office, such as the town scheme in Kensington Park Road Terrace North, the Photographic survey, and the research into the relationship between trees and buildings. He hoped that the meeting would join him in expressing gratitude and thanks to Mr. Grant.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

Four members of the Committee were due to retire, but were eligible for re-election. There were also two vacancies, one had been unfilled, and one was due to Mr. Thorold taking the Chair.

Mr. Chapman, Mrs. K. Kinmonth, Mr. T. Pakenham and Mr. Postgate were re-elected, and Mr. Grant and the Lady Reay were elected to the Committee.

The Hon. Treasurer Mrs. H. Edwards, and the Hon. Secretary Miss M. Cosh were re-elected.

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Edwards said that despite unavoidable rises in expenditure, income exceeded outlay by £ 80. This was due partly to the increase in interest on Bank deposit, and partly to a generous grant of £ 50 from the Royal Borough towards the cost of the mould for the roundels which had now been used to restore those missing on a number of houses at the lower end of Lansdowne Road.

Membership over the year had increased by 13 to 233. A number of members had suggested that the minimum subscription of £ 1. was too low, however the Committee was of the opinion that as long as the Association's funds remained in the black, they had risen from £ 413 to £ 854 over the past five years, no change should be made.

Many members subscribed more than the minimum and the number of covenanted subscriptions had risen to 64, and so the amount recovered from the Income Tax authorities remained at about £ 50 despite the fall in the basic rate of tax. She would welcome additions to the number of covenanters, as by this simple and painless method, the funds of the Association were increased.

12th A.G.M. minutes continued.

RETIRING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Ian Grant said that this A.G.M. marked the end of his term of office, which began so sadly with the untimely death of Professor Carus-Wilson. The Committee had nominated, and the Meeting elected, Mr. Peter Thorold as his successor, and he knew that he would make an excellent Chairman.

During the past year the committee had met once a month, and comments were regularly made to the Council on matters relating to planning and tree preservation. Various members' meetings had been arranged, and reported in recent Newsletters. He would like to take the opportunity of recording thanks to the Knights of St. Columba Club for allowing the use of their room for Association functions.

There was still concern about the anomaly of "Permitted Development" in Conservation Areas which allowed householders to make alterations to their property in certain circumstances without planning approval, and it was to be hoped that "Permitted Development" rights would be curtailed if not removed altogether in Conservation Areas, since the Association considered them to be totally contradictory to the basic idea of conservation.

Many of his audience would have seen in the local press that the matter of the Channel Tunnel Terminal had been re-opened, and that British Rail, in the interest of their own short term convenience, favoured a terminal at Olympia and at Shepherd's Bush. He considered that such a terminal, with increased traffic congestion, not to mention extra "tourist pollution", would be an environmental disaster for western Kensington. It was hoped to marshal a protest to coincide with that of the Kensington Society in due course.

The enhancement schemes promoted by monies from the Borough, the G.L.C. and the Department of the Environment had got under way in the past year, but somewhat spasmodically in Elgin and Blenheim Crescents, due to the nature of the arrangements. Most disappointingly, the D.O.E. had indicated that it could not contribute towards the enhancement scheme for Kensington Park Road Terrace North. The Association was pressing for this decision to be reconsidered.

A small triumph to be recorded was the happy outcome of the matter of the cabmen's shelter in Kensington Park Road, which was empty and deteriorating for several years. A new tenant had taken it over and was running it as a service to the cabmen for which it was originally intended. It had been neatly restored and re-painted, and the Council intended to nominate it for an Environmental Award.

INSTALLATION OF NEW CHAIRMAN

Mr. Peter Thorold then took the Chair for the rest of the meeting. He thanked the committee and members for his nomination and election. One of his aims would be, he said, to increase the membership of the Association. He felt that a larger membership would give the Association added weight in dealing with other authorities.

A.O.B.

The meeting was then open for questions. Among matters discussed were; traffic, trees, and the state of the pavements.