

The Croxley Green Resident

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' AND RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

No. 80

Acting Editor—Mr. F. N. CHERRILL,

No. 3—November 1963

Annual General Meeting

To All Members,

The Annual General Meeting of the Croxley Green Residents' and Ratepayers' Association will be held on Friday, 8th November, 1963, at 8 p.m. in the Science Room of the Dickinson Guildhouse, New Road, Croxley Green. All members are earnestly requested to attend.

F. N. CHERRILL,
Hon. Secretary.

10 Bateman Road,
Croxley Green,
Herts.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the 1962 Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting held on 27th March, 1963.
2. Matters arising therefrom.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Hon. Secretary's Report.
5. Hon. Treasurer's Report and statement of accounts for the year ended 30th September, 1963.
6. Election of President and Vice-Presidents.
7. Election of Officers and Committee for the ensuing year.
8. Election of Hon. Auditors.
9. Resolutions.
10. Open Discussion. (Prior notice of items for discussion should be handed to the Hon. Secretary.)

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

President: Col. C. E. Rothery Moss, 35 Watford Road.
Vice-Presidents: Councillor C. E. Armson, 14 Watford Road.
E. H. Page, Esq., 226 Watford Road.
J. S. Robinson, Esq., 46 Warwick Way.
Chairman: Mr. B. W. Gardner, 8 Repton Way.
Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. J. Wallwork, 44 Canterbury Way.
Hon. Secretary: Mr. F. N. Cherrill, 10 Bateman Road.
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. J. W. Broome, 114 Links Way.
Elected Members: Mr. R. E. Boardman, 16 Frankland Road.
Mr. W. N. Bryan, 85 Links Way.
Mrs. D. Horwood, 47 Owens Way.
Mr. P. G. Kingham, 4 Lewes Way.
Mr. T. N. Millway, 3 All Saints Lane.
Mrs. D. L. Nixey, 44, Oakleigh Drive.
Mr. B. H. W. Tullett, 9 Green Lane.
Councillor L. V. Reason, 40, Repton Way.
Mrs. D. Whitfield, 244 New Road.
Mr. G. S. Wilcox, 92 New Road.
Mr. J. R. Veysey, 21 Winton Crescent.

N.B.—All Members of the Association are eligible to serve on the Committee. The Committee needs new members. If you are willing to serve kindly write to the Hon. Secretary at least two days prior to the A.G.M.

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CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

The Committee of the Association recently considered and accepted a recommendation from the Officers who deem it essential for future progress that the Croxley Green Residents' Association should continue to contest elections for the Rickmansworth Urban District Council.

With this subject very much in our minds, the ball (or should I say the Ballot) is now in yours, the Members, court and assuming the majority of Members endorse this view three main aspects are vital:

Finance. However voluntary Civic duties are, the cost of offering candidates involves money. In keeping with our accepted policy of using only the fund raised for this purpose to cover printing expenses, we rely solely on donations to maintain the Fighting Fund which, at present, needs £35.00 reach our target of £50.

Canvassing. IT IS VERY NECESSARY that all possible houses should be canvassed during the Election period. This important work has in the past been neglected by the Association — possibly because many Members who do not like to be unduly disturbed in their leisure hours feel they do not wish to disturb their neighbours. Whichever way you view this aspect there is another which must not be overlooked. If this Association is to carry on actively in Local Government then you have to face the challenge of complacency and apathy. Interested Members should be prepared to canvas with a zeal which has been lacking hitherto.

Polling Day. Every vote will be needed—your own vote could be a vital one! Members will recall that in the last Election, a successful Councillor had a majority of one vote after six recounts. Not long ago, in Croxley Green North Ward, only ten votes separated the first and third candidates, when the elected candidate had a majority of only four votes.

If you are wondering why your Committee are thinking this way so early before the elections to be held on May 9th next year, the answer is Democracy. If the Association as a whole adopt this policy it is right that you should know the full facts before the Annual General Meeting on November 8th when you can make your wishes known, bearing in mind that your support will be needed.

An assurance can be given to Members that, whatever decision is reached, will be carried out, remembering that we seek to stand for all Ratepayers in Croxley Green. I look forward to meeting you at the A.G.M.

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THE EDITOR

Our best thanks are recorded to Mrs. D. Horwood, our Editor for four years, who has resigned owing to pressure of other duties. Our need is for a new Editor, so if any reader would like to help, the Chairman and Secretary would be pleased to discuss the matter.

FREEDOM FROM HUNGER CAMPAIGN

The people of Rickmansworth and district have been asked to raise money to finance the provision of a new Farm Institute in Sarawak. The whole of S.W. Herts will press to raise the total amount of £25,000, and £1,500 has already been collected towards the local target of £5,000. During October local efforts will link the idea of a plentiful harvest here with the needs of communities overseas. The Chairman of the local committee is Cllr. L. V. Reason.

WELCOME

To Mr. D. J. Taylor who has recently taken up the Headmastership of Durrants Secondary Modern School.

GOING DOWN

The tallest chimney at Dickinson's factory.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Cllr. Whiteside placed a lengthy statement before the Council regarding the standard of environmental and personal services which present-day ratepayers have a reasonable right to expect, citing serious weaknesses and deficiencies in such services which, he thought, were not wholly the fault of factors beyond the control of the Council to implement the Council's policies. Each working Committee of the Council will consider the matter. This Association would be glad to have a note of any overdue job having the Council's responsibility, as, for example, the footpath along Watford Road.

**A. R. CROSS
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5 Station Parade, Croxley Green,

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WE HEAR AND OBSERVE

Tithe Barn

The Tithe Barn at Croxley Hall Farm was recently shown on television. Its interest centres on proposals for its preservation as a building of historical value. An inspecting panel also visited Waterend Barn at St. Albans, and the Great Barn at Ruislip. The Council approved the recommendation for preservation, and will pay the Architect £109 for his report.

Post Office in Lower Baldwins Lane

At the Open Meeting of the Association in July, attention was given to the need for a sub-post office in lower Baldwins Lane, where it was noted a newsagent had presented a petition of 4,000 names to the Watford Postmaster who then declined to recommend such facilities. The need exists for all residents of the Durrants estate covering Links Way and all other roads in that area. The Secretary submitted the matter to the Controller of London Postal Services, who has declined the request in view of the nearness of other Post Offices. The Association are challenging this decision, and have gained the support of the R.U.D.C. towards achieving this service.

Banks in Croxley Green

Arising from the Open Meeting in July, the Secretary approached the Big Five and Martin's Bank suggesting one of them should open a Bank in Croxley Green. Each reply appreciated the suggestion, and two intimated that their Branches in Rickmansworth (1½ miles away), and Watford (3 miles away), were adequate for you. It is known that banking facilities are available through the Croxley Co-op. in New Road.

Wilson Memorial Seat—Croxley Green

The Old Boys' Association will be permitted to clean up the seat, but the Council requested them not to use linseed oil.

Barton Way Recreation Ground

Two new seats are to be installed. It is observed that the children's playground apparatus is often not in use owing to damage. The Council are to replace the jungle gym and provide a new roundabout.

A New Footpath

For several years the Association has called for the provision of a footpath between Croxley Met. Station and the entrance to the goodsyard. Negotiations are proceeding for the acquisition of the land, and the work should be done next year, at a cost of about £2,000.

Express Bus Service

The 803 Service will continue to stop at the junction of New Road/The Green, rather than at the Sportsman, to help transfer passengers from Sarratt.

Little Green Lane

The Association has complained of the terrible state of this unmade road, by which many children go to school. So that the present character of this lane is preserved the Council will continue to carry out such patching works as are necessary.

The A.412

The Association has repeatedly emphasised the traffic problem on this through artery and will continue its pressure on the Authorities with special reference to Watford Road, Croxley Green. Four Councillors have residencies in this road. One Councillor has obtained a dispensation from the Minister of Housing and Local Government to allow him to partake in the deliberations, but is prevented from voting.

Proposed North Orbital Road

The brief answer to the A.412 traffic problem rests in the provision of a new road linking the Denham Way at Maple Cross to the A.41 at Hunton Bridge. Councillor Armson has been instrumental in pressing this matter since the County Engineer reported that the Ministry were unlikely to pay the piper in financing a north orbital road. While money is spent improving the A.412 it is mainly a local expense with Ministry contribution, but a trunk road would be a national expense. The problem affects Watford Corporation so that they are now having joint consultations with Rickmansworth Council, when they will examine the results of Watford's census of traffic. It is to be hoped that Mr. Marples now realises the problem of long distance traffic passing through residential localities, because he has engaged Consulting Engineers to report to him regarding north-west London as a whole. To this extent the Association has been told by the Consulting Engineers that they will be glad to take our views.

Organisation and Method

Although the report of an O. & M. Team came to the Council several months ago, it appears the Council has still not made up its mind on the proposals, and meanwhile no information has been released to the rate-payers. How much did it cost?

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CARAVANS

Although the Council gave notice several months ago for the display caravans to be removed from the site near 241 Watford Road, they are still there. Now we hear that planning consent has been given for the erection of 17 new houses and garages. We note that the Council appear to be satisfied that there will be no difficulty for the residents of houses in this cul-de-sac emerging in to Watford Road, half way down the hill where traffic frequently touches 40 m.p.h.

By way of comparison, an application for four flats on the site of 26/30 Scots Hill was refused, one reason being that the proposed development would create unjustifiable traffic hazards on the adjoining very busy Class A road.

REMOVE THIS EYESORE

Many complaints have been noted regarding the terrible condition of the land at the junction of New Road and Watford Road. There is no doubt that it is an eyesore to be seen by all passengers on leaving Croxley Station. The Council has shown a dilatory attitude towards ensuring that the planning permission granted to the taxi firm has been observed, and for a long time cars were bouncing over the footpath. A crossing has now been made. Because the land is Crown property, where it was anticipated a permanent building would be built for the Post Office, the Council referred the problem to the Postmaster General who has asked the Council to defer further action until his department can clarify the legal position. Hence more delay.

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THESE ARE YOUR COUNCILLORS

Croxley North Ward: Cllrs. A. E. Gibbons, J. A. McGinn, R. J. Pitkin, and N. C. Young. Croxley South Ward: Cllrs. C. E. Armson, W. H. Cox, A. W. Hauck, and L. V. Reason. Our apology to Mr. R. J. Pitkin for omitting his name in our last publication.

The Association's Councillors are Mr. Armson and Mr. Reason. Mr. Armson serves on the Planning and Development, Housing and Public Health, West Herts Crematorium, Road Safety, Community Centres, and General Purposes Committees. Mr. Reason serves on the Allotments, Highways, Open Spaces, and General Purposes Committees.

For that part of Croxley Green within the area of Watford Rural District Council, the Councillors are Mr. T. Clutterbuck, J.P., and Mr. R. O. Walchi.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Members of the public are admitted to meetings of the R.U.D.C. General Purposes Committee, and to the Council Meetings. Dates of Council meetings are Oct. 29th, Dec. 10th, 1963, Jan. 28th, March 10th, April 28th, May 26th, June 23rd and Aug. 4th, 1964. The dates of G.P. Committee are Nov. 18th, Jan. 6th, Feb. 10th, April 6th, June 1st, July 13th, and Aug. 24th.

COMING EVENTS

Remembrance Sunday, 10th November. Service in The Guildhouse at 3 p.m. followed by procession to the War Memorial on The Green for the Laying of Wreaths.

The St. Oswald Players' latest production "Mystery at Abbots Mead" will be presented on Friday and Saturday, 8th and 9th November, at 7.45 p.m. in St. Oswald's Church Hall, Malvern Way. Tickets 3/-d. (including refreshments) available at the door or from 32 Sherborne Way.

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