

CROXLEY COMMUNITY NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION.

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140 Baldwins Lane.

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No. 20.

DECEMBER, 1948.

MAY WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF WISHING OUR MEMBERS AND THE RESIDENTS OF CROXLEY GREEN IN GENERAL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER.

At its Annual General Meeting the Association took the decision to continue its policy of contesting local elections. This decision may be taken as an expression of a feeling by a section of our residents that the Association fulfills a definite need in local affairs.

It is felt that the Association can best put forward the views on local matters without prejudice or influence from outside directives and unbiased by party doctrinaires and philosophies.

The views expressed at the meeting inspire the hope that a number of people think as we do, that the full weight of public opinion cannot be expressed by party representation alone.

It is recognisable that party representatives are inclined to put party interests first. A party's antipathy to opposite views would tend to prohibit sympathetic consideration being given to the suggestions and opinions emanating from adherents to opposing beliefs. Majority rule may be democratic but it takes no heed of the human prejudice to declared opposition.

In this Association's nominees the people will have men and women whose allegiance is to Croxley first and last and subject to no directives save those from Croxley people. In the hands of

democratically selected representatives the interests of all shades of opinion can be sympathetically considered and pressed, without the taint of party prejudice lending initial bias.

We can also, acting on a non-political party basis, divorce our local matters from those national issues that divide so many opinions into closed watertight compartments of party advocacy. The confusion existing in the minds of so many concerning political prejudice and party doctrines is carried down by them to the level of local government, whereas it has, in fact, no bearing on such matters as lie within the local administration's power to act on its own initiative.

I hope all who take more than an arm-chair interest in the development and well-being of this community will rally to the support of the Association in voicing the united opinions of the community.

R. KING-JONES.

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REPORT ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As previously notified to all members, this meeting took place on Wednesday, 3rd of November in St. Oswald's Hall under the Chairmanship of Mr. R. King-Jones and was attended by a numerically small but nevertheless enthusiastic body of members.

After the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of 12th November, 1947 had been read and approved, the Chairman introduced his report coupled with that of the Secretary, both of which had been circulated to members with the notice of meeting. In his report, the Chairman drew attention to the out-standing matters dealt with during the past year and stated that the disappointing results of the By-election in the South Ward in December, 1947 had shed their influence on the policy of the Association throughout the year. In particular, it had been decided not to contest the elections of April 1948.

As required by the Annual General Meeting of 1947, the Committee had drawn up a panel of suitable persons to act as President and Vice-Presidents which would be submitted to the present meeting for confirmation. The Chairman then dealt with the work of the Sub-Committees which was accomplishing its two-fold task of bringing a small compact committee into close relationship with a small number of problems and, by spreading the load over a wider field of personnel, enabling a larger number of members to take active part in the work of the Association.

The "Croxley Community News" was continuing to justify its expense by keeping members aware of matters being dealt with by the Committee and a wider use of its columns in airing the views and opinions of members was urged. After giving details of the share being taken by the Association's members in the work of other local organisations, Mr. King-Jones concluded his report with an expression of thanks and apprecia-

tion to officers and Committee for their services during the year.

The Secretary's report, presented by Mr. H. W. R. Fowler, gave a summary of matters already dealt with in these pages and included such subjects as:— Road Safety, Food Office, Water Softening, Bus Services, Street Lighting, Rubbish Dumping, Pig-bins, etc., with a note on the work of the Social Committee.

Both the Chairman's and Secretary's reports were then accepted on a proposal by Mr. H. Ford.

The Treasurer, Mr. J. S. Robinson, drew attention to the balance sheet, a copy of which had been distributed to each member on entering the hall, and gave a comparison between corresponding items for 1946/7 and 1947/8. The statement of account, audited by Messrs. Cusack and Stuart, was accepted by the meeting on a proposal by Mr. B. Lazenby.

Policy of the Association.

The Chairman then referred to an item in his report in which he had stated that, following the Committee's decision not to contest the elections of April, a guide was now sought from the present meeting for some positive action during the coming year. This question of whether or not the Association should take any part in future local elections had received a great deal of attention by the Committee and a majority recommendation was submitted to the Annual General Meeting that—

- (a) the Association should discontinue its practice of contesting local elections; but that—
- (b) it should concentrate on such alternative functions as pre-election meetings to meet candidates for election, holding open meetings to meet Councillors, distributing the "Community News" to all householders in Croxley Green, holding social functions and keeping close watch on all matters effecting the district.

After a wide discussion from the floor, it was finally decided by ballot that—

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O P E N

AT

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20 WEEKS TO PAY 20

The Association shall contest the next local election.

Election of Officers and Committee.

The following were elected by the meeting—

President—Dr. Allan F. Miller

Vice-Presidents—Dr. A. L. Ferguson
Rev. Raymond S. Wilkinson
Mr. L. Young
Mr. A. E. Jeffery

Chairman—Mr. R. King-Jones

Secretary—Mr. F. W. Withers

Vice-Chairman—Mr. H. W. R. Fowler

Treasurer—Mr. J. S. Robinson

...Committee—in addition to 10 non-retiring members—Mrs. R. Crocker, Mr. R. Crocker, Mrs. A. K. Vickers, Mr. W. J. North, Mr. W. Blanchard, Mr. E. Sheath, Mr. H. F. Newton, Mr. E. G. Phillpots, Mr. E. H. Page, Mr. T. Pooley, Mr. R. D. Fox, Mr. W. G. Brambleby, and Mr. H. Unsworth

Auditors—Mr. M. J. Cusack and Mr. E. S. C. Stuart.

Following the final discussion on several subjects of local general interest, the meeting closed at 10.45 p.m.

LET US HAVE THOSE QUERIES.

To revert to a point made in our Chairman's report at the Annual General Meeting, it is felt that the fullest use is not yet being made of these columns. A short letter, giving details of your own particular query or complaint, will, if desired, be given publicity or be presented to the appropriate authority for action to be taken to provide a remedy.

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DELIVERIES DAILY

SOCIAL COMMITTEE.

A successful dance was held in All Saints' Hall on November 13th, which was thoroughly enjoyed by a good number of our younger members. We shall be holding a similar dance at All Saints' on Saturday, December 11th. 7.45 till 11.30 p.m. with music by Stan Pike's band.

We were extremely pleased to welcome a party from St. Dunstan's, Croxley Green to the dance on November 13th and we understand they hope to attend some of our future functions.

Our annual Xmas Whist Drive will take place on Wednesday, December 22nd commencing at 8.0 p.m. with a number of prizes suitable for the festive season. We shall be starting the New Year with an Old-Time dance at St. Oswald's Hall on January 1st followed by a further Old-Time dance at All Saints' Hall on January 8th with Florian's band in attendance. We hope that members will take the opportunity of starting the New Year in the jovial atmosphere encouraged at our functions.

We still have some vacancies on our list of members and friends for the visit to the Express Dairy at Cricklewood so please let your Street Steward know if you are interested. As this outing is being arranged to suit the convenience of members, please state which afternoon you would prefer.

Any suggestions for similar outings and functions will be gratefully received by any member of your Social Committee.

H. COX,
13, Dover Way,
Social Committee Secretary.

OUR NEW SECRETARY.

As will have been observed in the report on the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting, a certain re-shuffling of offices took place as a result of Mr. W. G. Brambleby's finding it impossible to continue with the combined duties of Vice-Chairman and Editor of this publication. Mr. Brambleby has for some time suffered from indifferent health and asked that somebody should take his place. The vacancy was accordingly filled by Mr. H. W. R. Fowler who has acted as Secretary for nearly two years. In filling the office of Secretary, the meeting was fortunate in having available Mr. F. W. Withers who has already shown his enthusiasm for local affairs in his work as chairman of the Health and Housing sub-committee and we wish him well in his new duties.

Will members please take note of the following addresses—

General Secretary—

Mr. F. W. Withers, 10, Richmond Way,

Editor "Community News"—

Mr. H. W. R. Fowler, 140, Baldwins Lane, to whom appropriate correspondence should be sent.

A SEASONAL REMINDER.

Many members, especially Street Stewards, will have experienced the difficulty of finding addresses in some of our roads, particularly in the evening, due to house-holders not displaying the number of their house prominently on the gate. With the approach of the Christmas Season, and the employment of large numbers of temporary postmen, may we ask that such omissions be speedily rectified. This will not only avoid certain annoyance to the postal authorities but ensure that the Xmas mail is delivered with the minimum of delay.

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2576**

A.E. DARVILL

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