

THE CROXLEY RESIDENT

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' AND RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

No. 72

Editor—Mrs. D. HORWOOD, 47 Owens Way.

No. 2—May 1961

A CANDIDATE FOR CROXLEY GREEN

When I wrote in our previous 'Bulletin' regarding the strong feeling existent in Croxley Green that we, the Residents are apparently getting a rough deal, I never envisaged the action that has now taken place. The speed in which this was completed is very commendable and proves, without any fear of contradiction, how efficient your Committee is.

On Thursday, 16th March, a Resolution was mooted to the Committee regarding a Revision and subsequent Amendments to the Association's Constitution. The matter was resolved and on 20th March (as a result of an Emergency Sub-Committee Meeting in the meantime) it was decided that a Handbill should be printed and delivered with the 'Resident' to each household in Croxley Green. This gave Notice that a Special General Meeting was to be held on 6th April for the purpose of placing before you a Resolution to amend the Constitution and, if necessary, adopt Candidates for the 1961 Elections.

Consequently, we can now support a Residents' Candidate and—as your Chairman—I feel it is my duty to again point out 'who' and what 'we' are.

The Croxley Green Residents' & Ratepayers' Association is strictly non-political and non-sectarian. The discussion of all party politics is prohibited at all Meetings. Our objects include the promotion of efficient and economical administration of Local Government and to act in the interests of Croxley Green residents on local matters affecting them—if necessary taking appropriate steps to obtain redress of grievances in the District.

What a wonderful assurance the preceding paragraph is: not one of our present Councillors can utter such! But to secure election of our Candidate we need your support and we ask for it because we feel there is **NO PLACE IN LOCAL AFFAIRS FOR POLITICS . . . THE PARTY MACHINES** follow a Party-line, and this may be satisfactory nationally, but not locally in Croxley Green. Political opinions should not influence whether or not we have our roads swept, etc.: how can any Candidate elected with the help of any political party, follow the dictates of his own conscience? He must follow the Party-line.

In the past two Council Budgets, when our Rates have been increased over 2/- in the £ each year, not one protest was made by any Councillor but we, the Residents' Association, protested by letter and will continue to press for efficient and economic administration.

You may want to know whether one or two members of the Council can alter things . . . the answer is YES. A person who has the stomach to get up and protest constructively will show the way and by logical reasoning at least sow the seed of thought, or a different opinion into other Councillors' minds.

One man cannot stay a decision and would be over-ruled, but the might of public opinion can meanwhile be enlightened and residents are well aware how quickly our Association can snap into top gear, as has been proved on many occasions.

We can promise nothing but, unless we have at least one Councillor on the R.U.D.C. we—as residents—have no access to Councillors; whereas a Residents' Representative would be available to your Committee at their request.

I am certain that even one Councillor representing the Residents' Association can make such an impact on Local administration that things will improve and the thoughtless high-costing schemes that are passed through Council now will not be done so willy-nilly if Residents' Councillors are there to watch your interests. Let us have a man supported by the Residents' Association who has the audacity to call a spade—a spade; a man who will fight for a principle; a man who will say **NO** rather than join the rest because it is easier to do so; a man who will enquire and ask the necessary questions, and, above all, a man who will consider what the people want—not what the party would like. Believe me friends, that is the only way to efficient administration: this affects all of you and has nothing to do with party politics.

You must decide, but I believe you have such a man in Mr. C. E. Armson who has agreed to our request to stand as a RESIDENTS' CANDIDATE. Please give him your support in the coming Election—**TAKE POLITICS OUT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**. If we can get one Candidate elected we shall be in a better position next year to finance other Candidates on behalf of the Association. Before I close I would like to mention that a **FIGHTING FUND** has been started. Any contributions to assist expenses should be sent to Mr. J. W. Broome, our Hon. Treasurer, 114 Links Way, Croxley Green marked 'Fighting Fund'. This Fund could be the means of saving your 'funds' in the future!

HAROLD J. STEVENS,

Chairman.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Owing to the cost of election printing and the limited time before the election, it has been decided that for 1961 we should concentrate all our efforts on Croxley Green South Ward: accordingly only one Candidate will be in the field, although we intend to have more Candidates in future years. Residents are requested to give our Candidate all the support possible.

HAROLD J. STEVENS

**A letter to all readers of this bulletin from the
President of the Croxley Green Residents' and
Ratepayers' Association**

I would recommend for your careful perusal the excellent letter written by our chairman Mr. H. J. Stevens. In it you will see that your committee has chosen Mr. C. Armson to be the Croxley Green Ratepayers' Association candidate at the next R.U.D.C. elections to be held on May 13th.

I think this is a very wise choice, and I do hope that you will support him. Let us drop party politics at Urban Council Elections and put in someone who will speak his mind and look after the interests of the people who elected him, and not continually have to "Toe the Party Line", as is done at present.

I am sure Mr. Armson has the interests of Croxley Green at heart in a very high sense. I have known him for some years now, and have watched his work on the committee of the Residents' Association both as its Chairman and in committee, where his work has been excellent. Nothing is too much for him to do in the interests of Croxley, and his knowledge of Council affairs is great. I am told that he has not missed one Council meeting in the last four years, which does show his interest in local affairs.

He is the "soul of integrity", honest, straightforward and not afraid of voicing his opinion in a forthright manner.

Let us cut out Party Politics and VOTE for ARMSON the Croxley Green Ratepayers' Association chosen candidate.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

New Road

Dear Madam,

As a member of the Croxley Green Residents' Association I submit my observations upon the present state of the above-named thoroughfare and trust they will prove of interest.

I am sure the residents of the New Road will agree that for many months past the surfaces of the footway and road have been a source of discomfort and annoyance to pedestrians and road users and in some instances have been a contributory factor in causing personal injury:— as occurred to me, but little was done to ameliorate these conditions by the R.U.D.C.

Such a state of affairs makes one conscious of the difficulties of the elderly residents and young children in such conditions, but I fear these hazards will not be solved or removed in the immediate future.

It is apparent that after the footways are completed difficulties will still be encountered by the residents, especially in inclement weather.

I feel a much better result would have been achieved had the Council lowered the road surface and left the footways at their old level, even if monetary considerations required the work to be carried out in two or more sections in successive years.

It is of some comfort to know that we have an active association which, I have learned, promptly handled the queries that have arisen in connection with the re-surfacing which were referred to them by the residents who foresee the future conditions with some apprehension, further I am aware that other members are dealing with these problems themselves, and it is to be hoped that their united efforts may bring about some positive results.

I am, yours sincerely,

(Name and address supplied.)

**Polling Day is
Saturday 13th May 1961**

PHILIP MORRIS

M.R.S.H.

A.V.I.

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WE HEAR . . .

Parking on Grass Verges

Have you noticed the 'Tombstones' which have appeared on the grass verges of certain roads in the district? The R.U.D.C. have obtained Byelaws to prohibit the parking of cars on grass verges. The Byelaws apply only to road margins which are indicated to be subject to the Byelaws, by means of notices conspicuously displayed on or near the margin.

A petition from residents of Bateman Road asked the Council to remove the concrete blocks because they considered them unsightly and detrimental to the appearance of this residential road; they also claimed them to be dangerous to pedestrians, and suggested that a single notice on the first lamp standard ought to be sufficient. The Council have replied that they are satisfied that the type of sign is the most suitable, and that it shall remain in this and four other locations.

Footpath

The Footpath leading from Owens Way to the Green is very dark at night, and as it has two right angled turns in it, can be very dangerous to strangers. This Association has asked that a lighting column should be placed midway along this path. This proposal is to be considered with the review of estimates of requirements for 1961/2.

Street Lighting

The Residents of Bateman Road who wish to have efficient electric Street Lighting installed without delay will be pleased to learn that the Surveyor has now accepted a satisfactory Lighting column, and these will shortly be erected so that the whole of Street Lighting, including Bateman Road will be completed during the next few months.

Bus Stop—Scots Hill

The suggestion put forward by the Association that the Bus stop outside All Saints church should be moved to a layby outside Rickmansworth Grammar School, has been turned down by R.U.D.C. It should be noted that a bus stop in the position suggested, by this association, would have prevented 50% of children crossing the road.

Junction of Baldwins Lane

The Surveyor was instructed to arrange for white lines to be renewed on the Watford Road to enable cyclists and vehicles to pass more easily into Baldwins Lane.

Street Lighting—Junction of The Green—New Road

Complaints have been received of the poor standard of lighting at this junction, and requesting that consideration should be given to the provision of more powerful lighting.

The Surveyor feels that some improvement can be effected and is investigating the possibilities.

. . . AND OBSERVE

Provision of Seats

Two new seats are to be placed on the Green.

Baldwins Lane Recreation Ground

This lovely open space should soon be attracting many more local residents. Work should soon be starting on the erection of a Sports Pavilion, Public Conveniences and two Public Shelters. There is also provision for two new hard tennis courts, a children's play area, Car Park, and groundman's office.

Estimated Cost, £9,200.

Scrap Metal Depot, L.M.R. Sidings

In our last issue of the Bulletin, attention was forcibly drawn to the continual complaints of the operation of this site, which had reached this Association. We feel the publicity to this problem given previously in the Croxley Resident has materially assisted in this matter gaining the active consideration it deserves.

Affected Members will be interested to learn that the R.U.D.C. Minutes refer to enforcement action, if necessary, to be taken owing to the breaches of the conditions governing this Scrap Metal Dump. We now learn from the recent Council meeting; that action has been taken by the R.U.D.C. It is also of interest to learn that a statement made at the Council meeting indicated that the R.U.D.C. were aware that conditions under Town planning had been flouted in the past.

North Orbital Road

It was decided by the Highways Committee that no useful purpose would be served by approaching the Ministry of Transport regarding some measure of priority for this suggested Relief Road, which we feel would do much to ease Rickmansworth and Croxley Green's traffic problems.

Members will be interested to learn that this decision was referred back at the recent Council meeting, and we note that the Council are at last attempting to interpret the many requests they have received, to press for an early start to be made on the construction of this road.

Pedestrian Crossing—Illumination

Additional illuminations are to be provided on all pedestrian crossings in the district, with the exception of Church Street. Estimated costs, £130.

Council Houses

Tenants of pre-war Council houses will soon be saved the embarrassment of washing at the kitchen sink, whilst the wife chats to the milkman. 291 Wash Basins are to be installed in pre-war Council houses throughout the district.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- May 18th. Townswomen's Guild Open Evening.
June 3rd. The Revels.
June 10th. Conservative Fête.
June 17th. St. Oswald's Fête.
June 24th. All Saints' Church Garden Party.
Sept. 2nd. Horticultural Show.
Oct. 18th. Townswomen's Guild. Open Afternoon.
Oct. 28th. Horticultural Show.

THE CROXLEY RESIDENT

The Croxley Resident is the official publication of the Croxley Resident and Ratepayers' Association. It is distributed entirely free to every house in Croxley Green and is designed to inform Croxley Ratepayers of matters of Local interest, both Social and Civic.

Our Association has no political ties and we have no Party Line to Toe.

We have a Committee of 18 members who meet once a month to discuss Local Affairs. We study the activities of the R.U.D.C. and a representative attends every open Council meeting. We are interested in Croxley Green and in seeing that we get a fair share of amenities for the rates we pay.

Any of our Committee members will be only too willing to help members of the Residents' & Ratepayers' Association who have genuine grievances.

The Croxley Resident aims at six publications per year, but often this is not possible; however we are always happy to publish free any event being held in the district. We are indebted to the distributors of this Bulletin, especially the young people who so often help out.

If you should know of anyone in Croxley Green who does not get a copy of the Croxley Resident distributed to them, I would be very pleased if you would inform me, and I will see that they are not missed for future editions.

D. HORWOOD,
Editor.

CROXLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

You will recall that in our last issue of The Croxley Resident, we included a Questionnaire, which we hoped members of our Association would fill up and return to Committee members.

The Object of this questionnaire was to get a cross section of opinion of Croxley Ratepayers, as to whether there was a genuine need for a further hall in Croxley Green, or whether the cost of this hall, both to build and maintain is in our interests.

Many of you have returned the Questionnaire, but I feel that there are still some who would like to join with us in expressing their opinions, and who have not yet returned their forms. Please do so quickly.

CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' AND RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name

Address

Membership is open to all residents and ratepayers in Croxley Green. The yearly subscription to cover husband and wife is 2/-.

Subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer:—

Mr. J. W. Broome,
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