

The Croxley Green Resident

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF CROXLEY GREEN RESIDENTS' AND RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

No. 85

Editor—Mr. F. N. CHERRILL

No. 2—April 1965

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

To All Members,

Notice is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of the Members of the Association will be held on Wednesday, 21st April, at 8 p.m., in Dickinson's Guildhouse, New Road.

The business of the meeting will be to consider the recommendations made by the Committee in pursuance of Rule 14(e) which empowers the Committee to convene a Meeting of Members for the purpose of adopting Candidates for election to the Rickmansworth Urban District Council.

After the formal item of business the meeting will be open for discussion of any topic, which should be previously notified to the Hon. Secretary.

F. N. CHERRILL,
Hon. Secretary.

10 Bateman Road,
Croxley Green.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

THE ASSOCIATION'S PROPOSAL TO COMMEMORATE THE LATE SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

Ever since 1897 it has become the practice to plant on The Green an oak tree to mark each Royal occasion. The fact to plant a tree to commemorate a great event is now part of the way of life in Croxley Green. The Association considers the planting of a tree—not an oak (they are for Royal events)—as a suitable way in which to honour the greatest Englishman of our time. He was an individualist and we propose to obtain a tree from the ancestral home of Sir Winston at Blenheim Palace, and have a planting ceremony as near as possible to his 91st birthday next November. It will be necessary to obtain the consent of the Rickmansworth U.D.C. (as freeholders of The Green) and we shall approach the Commoners for their approval. It is hoped all interested parties will agree on the choice of a Douglas Fir or a Cypress (of American origin) to be planted and its position on The Green. To complete the project a plaque will be set at its foot as has been done with other commemorative trees on The Green.

I should like to stress this idea is in addition to the National Appeal and supplementary to it. Such a tree will provide an amenity for many years to come in honour of a great man, and for a long time beyond the span of life of our readers.

As to the cost, this should not prove too great (one donation has already been received) and when it has been accurately determined we may appeal for contributions from any who share in this project.

B. W. GARDNER,
Chairman.

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WE HEAR . . .

YOUR ASSOCIATION

The Croxley Green Residents' and Ratepayers' Association is nearly 26 years of age and among its aims and objects is to keep all residents informed of news, which often does not appear in the local Press, by distributing "The Croxley Resident" to every house in Croxley Green including those in Watford Rural D.C. area and that part which is postally in Watford. We are always deeply indebted to the 49 distributors for the efficient way they carry out this task. We are doubtful of the claim made in "The Key" dated February, 1965, that we no longer enjoy the monopoly of being the only journal to go into every house in Croxley Green. We know of several people who have not yet received the February "Key".

YOUR RATES

For 1965/66 these will be 10s. 7d. in the £, showing an increase of 1s. 1d., of which 3/6/10 d. will be used by the Local Council. The Association views annual increases with alarm, and re-affirms its policy (with many other Ratepayers' Associations) that national action must be taken to secure greater contributions from the National Exchequer not only to restrict consistent increases but to provide Local Authorities with improved finances for essential works. Your Committee deplore the age-old excuse of shortage of money.

SYCAMORE ROAD

It is understood that at least part of a section of Sycamore Road is, at last, to be made up. This ought to have been done years ago.

WINTON DRIVE AND WINTON CRESCENT

After delays of many years (during which the Association has pressed for action) these roads are being made up although there will be costs to the residents.

NOISE

A notice has been served on the owner of the Scrap Metal Yard adjoining L.M.R. Goods Yard to abate the nuisance caused by the excessive noise emitted by a diesel engined scrap metal baling machine.

DIFFERENTIAL RATING

The Council has now confirmed that differential rating for houses in the Croxley Mills area will be abolished from 1st April, 1965. Ratepayers affected may make a proposal to the Valuation Officer for a reduction in their assessment because of the lack of main drainage facilities providing the assessment has not already been reduced for this reason.

Arising from objections to a Compulsory Purchase Order for four parcels of land an official inquiry was held on 18th March. The Association was represented and made submissions which, briefly, dealt with the need for traffic lights instead of a kidney-shaped central reservation at the junction of Baldwins Lane and Watford Road, the elaborateness of the Bridge scheme which appears to have been designed to Ministry of Transport specifications, the effect of through traffic being diverted on the proposed North Orbital Road, and the efficient control of peak-hour traffic using nearby factories.

THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT

If the Conservative issued "Key" is not to show bias then it must tell the whole truth. For example, members of the public are admitted to seven different Council and Committee meetings but "The Key" only mentions *three*.

NEW COUNTY LIBRARY AND WELCOME CLUB

The Association has been watching the piece of land at the corner of New Road and Barton Way, set aside for this purpose, wondering how long it would lie idle.

Until the Council meeting of 9th March it looked as if the club section might never come about owing to money difficulties. The Council have, however, come to the rescue to make sure the whole scheme goes through. They agreed to make a loan of £2,500 over and above their other contribution. The terms of this loan are yet to be agreed. We understand work should start on the site in less than six months from now.

JUNCTION OF THE GREEN AND NEW ROAD

This Association has had lengthy correspondence to persuade the local Council to improve the street lighting at this place but they have declined to do so. As a cheap (and probably ineffective) alternative they have painted the kerbside white. The newsletter of a political party infers that they introduced this need, whereas all they actually did was to disapprove the provision of a stronger light!

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DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT

Croxley Green is short of two Councillors. Councillor McGinn, who represented the North Ward resigned last November but because his term of office was due to expire this May the Council decided not to have a by-election. In the South Ward Councillor Penny secured the seat by a very narrow majority over the sitting Councillor last May but it is understood Councillor Penny has gone abroad; the last meeting he attended was on 1st September. Between the date of his appointment to Committees and the end of January, 1965, he had attended 14 meetings out of a possible 39! Because this Councillor has not formally resigned from the Council six months of continuous absence from meetings must elapse before the Council are empowered to announce a by-election.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Mrs. Paddick, of Bateman Road, who recently celebrated her 101st birthday.

DUSTBINS

Have you a plastic dustbin? If so, the Council with regret cannot recompense you for alleged damage in handling by their employees. The Engineer says dustbins should be of B.S.I. standard which, it is understood, means they should be made of metal.

TIDY NOW

The pond in Little Green Lane is now clean and tidy, and the trees have been trimmed. This little-known backwater of Croxley Green is now quite attractive.

WINSTON CHURCHILL NATIONAL MEMORIAL APPEAL

The Chairman of the Council held a hurriedly convened meeting on 2nd March of several local bodies (at which this Association was represented by Mrs. D. Whitfield) to organise the local collection of donations to the Fund. The target set for the whole of the Rickmansworth Urban District Council area is £3,000.

CENSUS

The combined efforts of all Churches in Croxley Green are to be applauded for their scheme of carrying out a census of every house to ascertain the religious activities of every resident. It is hoped the outcome will be beneficial.

MEMORIAL TREES

On The Green there are five oaks commemorating V.R.I. 1837-1897, G.R. Coronatus 1911, G.R. Per Annos XXV 1935, G.R. Coronatus 1937, and E.R. Coronatus 1953.

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COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Readers are reminded that the public are admitted to certain meetings, and are encouraged to take advantage of this (it is still on a trial period) although it must be stated that all except the Road Safety Committee can choose to consider particular items of business with the exclusion of the public. All meetings commence at 8 p.m. (except Allotments Committee at 7.30 p.m., preceding alternate meetings of Open Spaces Committee).

Open Spaces	1st April, 1965
Highways	5th April, 1965
Finance	12th April, 1965
Council	27th April, 1965
Road Safety	28th April, 1965
General Purposes	20th May, 1965

and thereafter at six-weekly intervals except Allotments Committee.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

9th and 10th April.—“Running Riot,” at St. Oswald’s Hall.

15th May.—“Revels on The Green.”

15th May.—Municipal Elections for Urban Districts.

3rd July.—P.T.A. Fete at Durrants School.

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NEW APPOINTMENT

The Appointments sub-Committee selected Mr. T. W. Bland for the position of Civil Defence Officer and Road Safety Organiser. Mr. Bland comes from Middlesex.

£628,000

This is the estimated cost of the proposed scheme for re-developing the roads system in the central part of Rickmansworth. It seems we are getting too many schemes on paper and not enough in reality; look at the long-awaited roundabout from the By-Pass adjoining the Catholic Church.

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING CLASSES

ADULTS—Tuesday at Francis Combe School, Garston, 7.15; Wednesday at Malvern Way School, Croxley Green, 8 p.m.; Friday in Central London.

CHILDREN—Tuesday and Wednesday 4—6 p.m., according to age. Dances from Israel, Yugoslavia, Poland, Scandinavia, France, Austria, etc. Also dances from Ireland and Wales. Seaside Holiday Courses, Easter and Summer

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IN THE NEWS

On the same day recently the Aquadrome appeared on television, traffic problems of Rickmansworth, Watford, and other parts of the County were mentioned on the radio, and two Watford Councillors were interviewed on television.

CHIRONOMUS MIDGES

Action is being taken by local Medical Officers of Health to resolve an old problem firstly connected with the River Colne and latterly with the Canal.

Other complaints dealt with by the Public Health Inspector have concerned milk bottles, yoghourt, cottage cheese, lemonade and bread.

CONSUMERS' CORNER

A Croxley housewife has been in the habit of buying a proprietary article from a local shop but on one occasion her husband bought the same article in London where he was charged 2d. less! An inquiry from the manufacturers confirmed that the lower price was the stipulated resale price.

MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

A single subscription of 2s. covers husband and wife as members of the Association. The annual subscription has remained unchanged for many years and as it is now due for 1965 you may expect our collectors to call on you as the evenings become lighter.

**ARE YOU A MEMBER? IF NOT, THIS IS
YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN OR RE-JOIN.**

The minimum subscription is 2s. per year per family and subscriptions above this amount are credited to a separate fund which is used in furtherance of the Association's policy to secure representation on the Rickmansworth Urban District Council.

*To the Hon. Treasurer, at 114 Links Way
(or to any member of the Committee)*

Please enrol me as a member of the Croxley Green Residents' and Ratepayers' Association, for which I attach subscription for the year ending 30th September, 1965.

Mr. & Mrs. Amount.....

Address Date.....

(You will not be canvassed for the return of this form; your membership is entirely voluntary)

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