

THE LADBROKE ASSOCIATION

The fifteenth Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on Monday 20th June 1983 at 2 Lansdowne Crescent at 8.30 p.m.

Chairman: Peter Thorold.

Apologies: David Campion, Michael Cocks, Santa Raymond.

1. MINUTES The Minutes of the last AGM were approved and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING These were dealt with under other items.

3. HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

Hilda Edwards expressed the appreciation of the Association for the work done by Mr Notcutt in auditing the accounts for many years past. He had now moved away from the area. Mr. Guy Mayers had very kindly consented to take over and had carried out the 1982-3 audit for us.

The current membership now stood at 319: 200 members had made standing orders, which greatly eased the work of the treasurer, and 101 had signed covenants.

The surplus of £472 shown for the year had to be viewed in the light of the fact that demands for secretarial expenses of £132, for the Spring Newsletter of £153, and for the Spring Meeting of £56 were not met until after 1st April; and that an extraordinary donation of £80 was made by a TV company filming in Clarendon Road. A more realistic figure for the surplus was therefore around £50. The continuation of a surplus was dependent on the maintenance of a sizeable balance in the deposit account, which had produced an income of £110 over the year. It was clear that subscription income alone was not sufficient to support expenditure, and if therefore we wished to maintain sufficient funds to enable us to make donations towards conservation projects it now seemed appropriate to consider raising the minimum subscription from the £1 which had been in force for over 12 years: the cost of materials alone supplied to members - quite apart from the cost of meetings - over the year was in the region of £1.25.

4. The Treasurer's Report was adopted unanimously.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A reading of the Minutes of last year's AGM shows that a number of the Planning Applications before us then have still not been completed. Notably there is the Kensington Temple, where we have now felt that we had to ask the Council to impose a completion date. During the last year there has been the development at 9-13 Lansdowne Road (the Knights of St. Columba Club) which we are pleased is to become residential accommodation, although we consider too great a population density has been allowed and we have some reservations on design.

The proposed office block at the bottom end of Ladbroke Grove had been strongly opposed by the Association and planning permission had been refused. We also successfully resisted the application for a canopy over the front of the Ladbroke Arms in Ladbroke Road.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (cont)

Reaction to planning proposals is central to the Association's work, and our relations with Council departments are highly important. In one case this year, a vital one, there was an appeal to the Department of the Environment for permission to build a substantial extension to 1 Arundel Gardens at which we appeared alongside the Council representatives. Our intervention played a considerable part in the satisfactory outcome.

The Chairman went on to give examples of where our influence had increased on planning and restoration matters. We were not, however, happy with the Council's attitude on retrospective planning permission and on the standard of architectural drawings submitted with many applications.

The Chairman then went on to discuss the charge that preservationism amounted to a primary commitment not to beauty but to age. The duty of a society such as ours was to distinguish between conservation and unthinking preservation with its sometimes deadening effect. The Chairman concluded by saying how much he had enjoyed his three years of office, and how it had confirmed his belief in the importance of the Association's work, and his conviction that there was considerable scope for the Association to increase its influence.

He then thanked Muriel Cosh and Hilda Edwards for their work for the Association as Secretary and Treasurer. He presented them with tokens of thanks from the present Committee. The members present joined in their thanks.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Peter Thorold retires as Chairman after three years in office. Muriel Cosh retires as Secretary after some ten years in office. Hilda Edwards retires as Treasurer after seven years in office.

Robert Meadows to be Chairman	Proposed by Angus Stirling
	Seconded by Peter Thorold
Kathleen Kinmonth to be Hon. Sec.	Proposed by Muriel Cosh
	Seconded by Dr. Donald Crowther
Peter Austerfield to be Hon. Treas.	Proposed by Hilda Edwards
	Seconded by Ian Grant.

7. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The following members retired and offered themselves for re-election:

	Proposed by	Seconded by
Ian Grant	Jeremy Lever	Santa Raymond
Thomas Pakenham	Kathleen Kinmonth	Ian Grant
Muriel Cosh	Santa Raymond	Jeremy Lever
Peter Thorold	Peter Austerfield	Hilda Edwards
New member:		
Linda Kelly	Peter Thorold	Thomas Pakenham

8. A.O.B.

- a. Ian Grant proposed a very warm vote of thanks to Peter Thorold for his chairmanship of the Association over the past three years. He was very glad that he would remain on the Committee.

8. A.O.B. (cont.)

- b. Amongst other topics brought up by members the question of the size of the membership assumed the greatest importance, and it was decided to discuss it at a future committee meeting.
- c. Leslie Du Cane had postcards of the area, as it was at the beginning of the century, for sale: also some 'Complaint cards' issued by the council which could be used for reporting defects in pavements and similar environmental matters.
- d. Trinity Buildings in Ladbroke Grove caused concern as it is in an almost derelict condition.
- e. Street lighting was mentioned briefly.
- f. The terrace of shops in Ladbroke Road opposite the Kensington Temple. The Chairman informed the meeting that the application to demolish them had been turned down by the Council.
- g. Advertising matter on meters, litter bins and shops was deplored, and it was agreed that the present situation should be investigated; likewise the large new gas meters fitted to the outsides of houses.
- h. The Chairman pointed out that all planning applications could be seen at the Council Offices, and were also published briefly in the Kensington Post. It would be impracticable for the Association to inform members of planning applications which might concern them individually.

4.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously.

5.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A reading of the Minutes of last year's A.M. shows that a number of the Planning Applications before us have now still not been completed. Notably these are the Kensington Temple which we have now felt that we should like to see demolished.

We are also concerned in the Kensington Temple which we are opposed to the removal of residential character from the area.

We discussed the matter at the bottom end of Ladbroke Grove and have brought forward the application and planning permission for a house over the front of the terrace in Ladbroke Road.