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THE GATEACRE SOCIETY

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Minutes of the Twelfth Annual General Meeting of the Gateacre Society held on Tuesday 21st October 1986 at the Gateacre Institute, Grange Lane Liverpool 25

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PRESENT: Mr. G.A. McCann (Chairman)
Mrs. Sylvia M. Lewis (Hon. Secretary)
Miss Janet Gnosspelius (Hon. Treasurer)
Miss Nan Lythgoe (Membership Secretary)

COMMITTEE Miss J. Borrowscale, Mr. M. Chitty, Mrs. J. Cohen,
Mrs. J. Farrell, Mrs. D. Myles

Peter Bushell, K. Close, E.T. Denton, J. Doherty, T. Doherty,
Joan and Harold Gadd, H.J. Haddleton, J. Leggett, L.G. Shepherd and
David Swerdlow (A total of 20 members)

THE MEETING BEGAN at 8.10 p.m. with the Chairman Mr. McCann extending a welcome to those present. He congratulated everyone on having turned out in such atrocious weather

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Bee, Miss Champion Miss Hodgetts, Miss Howie, The Revs. D. & J. Roberts, Mrs. Silcock Mr. and Mrs. Venables and Mr. Wheeler
2. MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, held on the 22nd October 1985 had already been circulated to all members. They were approved as a true record and there were no matters arising.
3. THE HON. SECRETARY, Mrs. Lewis, presented her report on the Society's activities during the past year; her final report after 12 years as Hon. Secretary. She was congratulated on producing such a detailed and comprehensive report and it was agreed that a copy would be sent to every member. There were no questions.
4. THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, Miss Lythgoe, then presented her report. Total paid-up membership stood at 342 at the end of the Society's year 1985/6, compared with 346 a year earlier. Six members had left the district during the year and one had died, but 20 new members had joined. Unfortunately it had been found necessary to increase subscription rates (for the first time in the Society's history) but existing members had been offered renewal at the old rates for a limited period. As a result some 119 members had already paid their subscriptions for 1986/87. Miss Lythgoe was thanked for her report and for her two years service as Membership Secretary.
5. THE HON. TREASURER, Miss Gnosspelius, circulated the Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 10th October 1986 and gave a brief summary of its contents. She drew attention to the Society's purchase of a £1,000 National Savings Deposit Bond - which was earning a very good rate of interest - and to the high level of bank charges, as a result of which the Society was about to transfer its account from the Midland to the National Westminster Bank. Questions were invited and Miss Gnosspelius was asked to clarify the 'insurance' item. She explained that this covered the Gateacre signs and also liability for personal injury, etc., arising from Society activities. Miss Gnosspelius was thanked for her report.

6. CHAIRMANS REMARKS. Mr. McCann explained that he had been incapacitated for a large part of the year but was pleased to observe the Society flourishing, as already reported by Mrs. Lewis. The Society had continued to keep an eye on the area and to protect Gateacre's environment during what had been very trying times for the City of Liverpool. At this point Mr. Lionel Shepherd, on behalf of the members present, formally proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Lewis for her 12 years of service to the Society. He expressed the hope that she would not retire altogether. Mr. McCann seconded the vote of thanks and it was carried unanimously. He reassured members that Mrs. Lewis would remain on the Committee as Environment Secretary. He also gave special thanks to Mr. Leslie Wheeler, who was standing down as Vice-Chairman., to Miss Nan Lythgoe, whose 'friendly badgering' as Membership Secretary had maintained the Society's membership figures so well, and to Miss Elaine Heyworth - the former Treasurer - who had now moved to Bristol.
7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS. One nomination had been received for each post and, there being no nominations from the floor, the following appointments were confirmed: Chairman Mr. G.A. McCann, Vice-Chairman Mr. J. Williams, Hon. Secretary Mr. M. Chitty, Hon. Treasurer Miss J. Gnosspelius, Environment Secretary Mrs. S. Lewis, and Membership Secretary Mr. K. Close.
8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS. Six nominations had already been received and two nominations were received from the floor - Mr. Harold Gadd and Mrs. Joan Gadd, proposed by the Chairman Mr. A.G. McCann, seconded by Mrs. S.M. Lewis. The following were confirmed as ordinary members of the Society's Executive Committee: Miss J. Borrowscale, Mrs. J. Cohen, Mrs. J. Farrell, Mr. & Mrs. Gadd, Mrs. J. McKenzie, Mrs. Myles and the Rev. D. Roberts.
9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Mrs. Cohen, the Society's Public Relations Secretary, reminded those present that the next meeting would be a talk by the custodian of Speke Hall. She asked whether members would be interested in a day trip next year, perhaps to Samlesbury Hall. Mr. Haddleton asked whether Hunts Cross Avenue was under the Gateacre Society's jurisdiction. He said the grass verge on the corner of Hillside Drive was a disgrace: fouled by dogs and generally neglected.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.5 p.m.

MRC 13.10.87