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Minutes of the Thirteenth Annual General Meeting of the Gateacre Society held on Tuesday 10th November 1987 at the Gateacre Institute, Grange Lane, Liverpool 25.

PRESENT: Mr. G.A. McCann (Chairman),
Mr. John Williams (Vice-Chairman),
Mr. Michael Chitty (Hon. Secretary),
Miss Janet Gnospelius (Hon. Treasurer)
Mr. Keith Close (Membership Secretary, Miss J. Borrowscale,
Mrs. J. Cohen, Mr. H. Gadd, Mrs. J. Gadd, and Mrs. D. Myles
Committee Members,

E. Castle, H.J. Haddleton, B. Plent, I. Scott, David Swerdlow,
and S.G. Thorne.

THE MEETING BEGAN at 8.15 p.m. with the Chairman, Mr. McCann extending a welcome to those present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Beswick, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Lewis, Rev. D. Roberts, Mrs. Silcock, and Mrs. Wilson.
2. MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, held on 21st October 1986, had already been circulated to all members. They were approved as a true record. Mr. Haddleton said that there had been some improvement in the condition of the land in Hunts Cross Avenue.
3. THE HON. SECRETARY, Mr. Chitty, presented his report on the Society's activities during the past year. Questions were invited, and one member asked for the latest news about the Grange Lane parking problem. Mr. Chitty said that the City Engineer had acknowledged his letter but stated that staff shortages were currently preventing survey work being carried out. The Grange Manor late licence application was still to be determined - Mrs. Lewis would be attending the hearing - as was the planning application. Mr. Chitty was thanked for his report, and it was agreed that copies should be printed and distributed to all members of the Society.
4. THE HON. TREASURER, Miss Gnospelius, circulated the Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 10th October 1987 and gave a brief summary of its contents. She explained that the accounts were, strictly speaking, provisional in that they had not yet been audited. Compared with the previous year, subscriptions income had risen because the rates had gone up, though the number of members had fallen. Bank charges were even higher than last year, in spite of the Society having moved its account to a bank which had said it would not charge. So were the insurance premiums; but Miss Gnospelius felt that the Society could not really afford to do without insurance owing to the risk of injury claims from members of the public. Miss Gnospelius was thanked for her report.
5. THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, Mr. Close, then presented his report. Membership had fallen significantly, probably owing to the rise in subscription rates. Total paid-up membership stood at 286 at the end of the Society's year 1986/87. Two members had died, four had moved away, and another 52 had failed to renew their subscriptions; only 5 new members had joined the Society during the year. Only about 40 members were currently paid-up for the year 1987/88. Mr. Close was thanked for his report.

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6. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS. Mr. McCann said that the Society was still in a healthy state, in spite of the fall in membership which seemed to be common to many organisations at the present time. He thought that the Secretary's Report confirmed his own impression of a Society working quietly but well towards the achievement of its aims, as set down in the Constitution. Although mainly concerned with local issues, the Society was certainly not insular - as witnessed by Mr. & Mrs. Gadd's attendance at a Civic Trust conference in Chester, and the letter received from Japan! Mr. McCann singled out Joan Cohen and Mike Chitty for thanks as they were retiring from office. In conclusion he reminded members of the enormous contribution made by Mr. Tim Brakell, who had died during the year and would be sadly missed by the Society, by Gateacre and by people throughout Liverpool.

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
Joint Hon. Secretaries Mr. & Mrs. H & J. Gadd,
Hon. Treasurer Miss J. Gnospelius,
Assistant Secretary (Environment) Mrs. S.M. Lewis,
Membership Secretary Mr. K. Close.

8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS. The Chairman asked all of those present to consider putting themselves forward for election to the Committee, as there were many jobs to be done on behalf of the Society. A short break was announced and nomination forms were circulated. After the break, the Chairman read out the list of those nominated as follows: Miss J. Borrowscale, Mrs. E. Castle, Mr. M. Chitty, Mrs. J. Cohen, Mr. H. Haddleton, Mrs. D. Myles, Rev. D. Roberts, and Miss I. Scott. On a proposal by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. McCann, all 8 of these members were declared duly elected as Ordinary Members of the Society's Committee.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Mr. Close said that, as Membership Secretary, he had received complaints about the anomaly in the subscriptions structure. Single pensioners paid £1, but pensioner couples were uncertain whether they should pay £1.50, £2 or £3. It was agreed that the Committee would look into this.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

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