

Gateacre Society Newsletter



Registered with the Civic Trust

URBAN TREE MANAGEMENT IN LIVERPOOL AND TREE CARE IN GATEACRE

By Giles Nance

Mr. Nance is the Tree and Woodlands Manager for the City's Environmental Services Department (Parks and Gardens) and is based at Calderstones.

He will tell us about the problems associated with tree management and how his unit is addressing this responsibility. Mr. Nance will also tell us about the new tree Warden Scheme now being organised.

> Tuesday 22nd September 1992 at 8 pm

Gateacre Institute, Grange Lane, Gateacre.

Visitors Welcome

Date For Your Diary.

The 1992 Annual General Meeting.

Tuesday 20th October 1992

Active Committee Members Required.
Wine and Biscuits after the business is over

CHAIRMAN Tony McCann O.L.A.School Hedgefield Rd.

051 487 9301

HON, SEC. Mrs. Joan Gadd, 59 Hunts Cross Ave.

051 428 8884

MEMBERSHIP SEC Mrs. Beryl Plent 27 Grange Lane Gateacre

051 428 5379

SOME RECENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS;

Black Bull - To display brewery signage and floodlights.

We saw the drawings and were critical of the size and number and we thought that the floodlights were much larger than necessary. We wrote to the CPO and hope that we may have some improvement on this listed building.

Black Bull - Demolition of toilet building.

The proposal is to demolish the building and re-use the red pressed bricks to replace the very nasty concrete blocks.

Knotty Cross. To erect new bungalow.

For many years we have resisted <u>any</u> building in the garden of this early 19th century, once listed, house. This application is from Councillor Fitzsimmons and there is to be a site meeting of the Development Control Committee at 10 25 am on September 4th to discuss the problems.

(Full List of Applications on Notice Board)

Merseyside Civic Society.

A pleasant and useful meeting for Societies Committee members, the Civic Trust and City Planners was held at the Anglican Cathedral on 29th June. MCS are having their AGM on 14th September and we are asked for our ideas about their future role (apart from keeping an overall eye on planning over the whole of Merseyside). We value their continued support to our Society whenever we have serious problems, and we also feel that it would be useful if they were to act as an umbrella organisation - hosting meetings of local societies periodically, thus drawing us together, keeping us in touch with each other and having a chance to share ideas about our work.

Grove Farm Development.

We understand that Knowsley Planning Department have given outline planning permission for a new housing development which might contain about 40 houses on land at Grove Farm, Hale wood Road.

The land belongs to North West Water who, having no present use for it wish to realise their assets. We shall resist this application feeling that a greater volume of traffic on Halewood Road, almost opposite Out Lane, would be detrimental to Gateacre.

Garden Cities and Garden Suburbs.

On 23rd June Mike Chitty, with the high quality slides we now expect of him took as through the story of Model Villages from Milton Abbas in the 1770's and cotton mills housing at New Lanark where Robert Owen, aiming in 1800-15 to make a community, also built an 'Institute for the Formation of Character'. At this period housing in places like Liverpool was in overcrowded courts for which improvements by the 1870's produced bye-law streets, but as cities grew bigger, ourneys to work lengthened.

But there were socially concerned industrialists creating new places like Prices Village, Bromborough (1850's) Saltaire near Leeds, and Port Sunlight from the 1880's with facilities for self improvement of workers like libraries and meeting halls, space for recreation and no pubs. Ebenezer Howard's famous book The Three Magnets set out ideas about town/country and 'garden citles'.

Bourneville, Letchworth and Welwyn were designed to be places where people could live in healthy surroundings within easy reach of their factories in a garden city. Garden suburbs, where conditions are pleasant but the journey to work arduous, began in Bedford Park, London, but then came socialist inspired Henry

Vivian who in Ealing about 1900 formed the Ealing Tenants Estates with social facilities.

By 1910 Henry Vivian, from 14 Castle Street, Liverpool, issued the prospectus for Garden Suburb Tenants Ltd. for Wavertree, the architect being George Lister Sutcliffe who had worked at Ealing, Letchworth and Hampstead.

The foundation stone of 13 Waver-tree Nook Road was laid and the scheme took off. (If that area inside the new Queens Drive had been laid out with bye law streets there would have been about 40 terraced houses per acre, as the Garden suburb it has 10) By 1912 the tennis courts were in use - it was felt important to get social facilities going in early days - and the Institute was planned and tenants were shareholders.

The outbreak of war in 1914 checked development at Wavertree where a similar area beyond Queens Drive was intended; but in a way the war was also a spur. Munitions workers at Woolwich, Chester and other places needed housing and it was provided on garden suburb lines.

If we think of interwar housing in Liverpool we can see how much the design owes to the garden suburb ideal.

J.B. & J.B.G.

As this proposed development is in Knowsley, not in Liverpool, any detailed application will not appear on the weekly list we receive from the C.P.O., so members are asked to look out for Notices on lamp posts as they pass Grove Farm and let the Secretary know so that we may send in our objections.

P.S. to Environment Week.

To mark the success of Environment Week, Bob Pointing, of the Civic Trust's U.K. 2000, held a splendid exhibition and garden party at his home at 45 Canning Street. Our photograph, (see Notice Board) by the *Liverpool Echo* photographer was on the cover of the report handed out.