

MINUTES of the Gateacre Society Committee Meeting, held on Monday 12th January 2015 at Gateacre Chapel Vestry

PRESENT: Brian Doman (Chair), Pam Ball, Mike Chitty, Margaret Gofton, David Phythian, Beryl Plent, Sandra Sandland

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Eryl Chitty, Rosemary Doman
- 1a. INTRODUCTIONS.** MG was introduced to the Committee as an 'observer'.
- 2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** (1 Dec 2014) were approved - proposed SS, seconded PB.
- 3. MATTERS ARISING:**
 - 3.1 (3.1) Lee Hall book.** MC still to finalise the PDF file.
 - 3.2 (3.2 & 7.3.1) Green Spaces.** BP reported that there will be a protest outside Liverpool Town Hall on 14 Jan at 4pm, organised by Save Our Green Spaces (Liverpool). Agreed that BP will attend SOGS(L) meetings as the GatSoc's representative, and that we support the group's broad aims.
 - 3.3 (3.4) Aldi Time Capsule.** MC reported that the Royal School for the Blind Liverpool had been in touch, asking for information on how we assembled the time capsule, as they are thinking of creating one. MC had responded.
 - 3.4 (5.4.1) British Association for Local History.** MC reported that our subscription had been renewed as agreed.
 - 3.5 (7.3.2) Former Gateacre Comp School Site.** MC had written to Turley as agreed, and put a copy of our response (plus copies of all the exhibition material, etc.) on a special section of our website. Michael Clare of Turley had acknowledged it but had not as yet answered our questions.
- 4. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS.**
 - 4.1 Welcome to Margaret Gofton.** BD wished everyone a Happy New Year and extended particular greetings to MG who had expressed an interest in joining the Committee. Agreed unanimously (proposed BD, seconded BP) that MG be co-opted to the Committee. MC agreed to visit her and show her what would be involved in being the Society's Hon.Treasurer.
- 5. TREASURER'S BUSINESS:**
 - 5.1 Balances.** MC reported £6311.29 in HSBC Current a/c as at 1 Jan.
 - 5.2 Payments made.** MC reported that HSBC had charged us £4 for processing a £12 cheque paid in by a member who had changed their bank account. EC had issued £100 cheque to Gateacre Journal Ltd, following receipt of an invoice, to cover the adverts published in 2014.
 - 5.3 Expenses claims.** (None)
 - 5.4 Money owing.** (None)
 - 5.5 Money received.** SS handed over £6.50 cash (donations at Nov 2014 talk). PB had money from tea-towel sales to hand over at next meeting. BD said RD had £24 subscriptions to hand over at next meeting.

6. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S BUSINESS:

- 6.1 Paid-up membership.** RD reported, via BD, that there had been one household renewal plus one new household member since the last meeting.
- 6.2 Ken Pye.** MC reported that KP had emailed him to say that his £100 cheque 'is in the post'.

7. ENVIRONMENT SECRETARY'S BUSINESS:

- 7.1 Recent planning applications.** MC circulated a list of applications received during the period 24 Nov 2014 - 2 Jan 2015.

- 7.1.1 42 Gateacre Brow.** Application 14F/1678 to retain alterations to permission 06F/0294. Mike & Sue Friar had emailed to explain that this was to regularise the permission for what had already been done. The 9 new-build apartments will be covered by a further application, after which the site will be finished and "decorated with trees etc." Agreed no action.

7.2 Previous planning applications:

- 7.2.1 Grange Lane Service Station.** Application 14F/1948 from Michael Taylor to erect 2 three-bedroomed dormer bungalows. MC noted that these were to be built on only part of the site, and the existing buildings would (apparently) remain. Agreed MC to object to the severance of the 'garden' area of the site on the grounds that it would make the redevelopment of the remaining (potentially-contaminated) part of the site less viable.

- 7.2.2 Falstaff site, Gateacre Park Drive.** MC had emailed the Planning Dept, as agreed, withdrawing our objection. However no decision notice had been issued as yet.

- 7.2.3 Former Gateacre Chapel Hall, Sandfield Road.** MC had emailed the Planning Dept asking whether details of the proposed boundary treatment are yet available. Stuart Clark had replied to say that he will be pressing for removal of the unauthorised wooden fence.

7.3 Other environmental matters:

- 7.3.1 Liverpool Local Plan.** Agreed MC to submit online comments on behalf of the Society, objecting to the designation of our local Green Spaces as residential development sites. MC also, via the Newsletter, to encourage Society members to do likewise.

8. HON. SECRETARY'S BUSINESS.

- 8.1 World War 1 memorials.** BP drew attention to a workshop in Liverpool being organised by Civic Voice.

- 8.2 Wavertree Society Newsletter.** MC drew attention to a forthcoming talk by Jonathan Brown on 'Liverpool's Future - Some Ideas & Issues', which Committee members of other societies are specifically invited to attend.

9. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS.

- 9.1 Sunil Dayaram - 10 Gateacre Brow gravestone.** Email received from a prospective purchaser, asking about the old gravestone outside the door of 10 Gateacre Brow. MC to reply after liaising with BP, who thought there might be some information in Sylvia Lewis's files.

- 9.2 Katie Leach - Belle Vale video.** Email received from Shoppertainment Management Ltd, asking for permission to make use of MC's video of the Nov 2013 unveiling

ceremony. MC had agreed, and also drawn KL's attention to the Liverpool Weekly News 1973 advertising supplement which he had put on our website.

9.3 Tony Murray - Ramblers' visit. Email received from Deeside Midweek Ramblers regarding a proposed visit to Gateacre. MC to put them in touch with BP who may be willing to guide them.

9.4 Barbara Mace - Friends of Gateacre. Email received from BM about next FOG meeting, 13 Jan. MC hoped to attend.

9.5 Lisa Mitchell - Pop-up library. SS reported a conversation with LM about the proposed use of empty shop units in Belle Vale Shopping Centre. SS to report back if there are opportunities for exhibiting historical/publicity material, etc.

10. MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

10.1 January talk. Christina Spencer had sent MC full details of her History of the Bibby Line talk (Sun 25 Jan). MC to pay her cash (£30) as she does not have easy access to a bank.

10.2 March talk. BD to book Pauline Hurst to talk about the Beechams of St Helens on Sun 22 March. (She is not available on 30 March).

10.3 Williamson Tunnels visit. BD to arrange a visit on Sun 29 March.

10.4 May talk. BD to email Dr Donna Jackson and invite her to talk about 'Modern Heritage and The Beatles' on Mon 18 May.

10.5 Newsletters. Next issue imminent, to advertise the Bibby Line talk. MG is willing to help with hand delivery, MC to arrange.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

11.1 St Stephen's Church tours. SS reported that St Stephen's will be offering tours by trained guides, by appointment.

11.2 Collapsed sandstone wall. MC reported that a section of sandstone wall adjacent to the Gateacre Brow-Chartmount Way passageway had recently collapsed. It forms the boundary of the Gateacre Village Conservation Area and will need to be rebuilt by a specialist. MC to try and find out who is responsible for getting the work carried out.

12. DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Mon 16 Feb, 7.00pm in Chapel Vestry.

NOTE: Next meeting subsequently POSTPONED to Mon 2 March, 7.00pm in the Vestry (or another venue if redecoration work has not been completed).