

PARKGATE AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

Chairman Mr. F.W. French 336 3113, Vice Chairman Mrs. H. Wall-Jones 336 2420,
Secretary Mrs. A. Clarke 336 1069.

A N I L L U S T R A T E D T A L K

by

Mrs. Peter Bailey

Life On Hilbre Island

to be held at The Parkgate Hotel on

Wednesday 10th July 1974

at 8 p.m.

MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO BRING GUESTS

WILLING TO JOIN THE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 6 - SUMMER 1974

Since the last Newsletter, the Society has continued its involvement in local affairs, some of which you may have seen reported in the local newspapers. Perhaps the most obvious effort we have made is the publication of the booklet 'A Stroll through Parkgate', about which more later.

In recent months, there have been changes in the Committee, the first being that Mr. & Mrs. S.J. Norris have left Parkgate to take up residence near Reading. We are sure you will join with us in thanking Mr. Norris for his hard work during his term of office and expressing our gratitude to Mrs. Norris for her hospitality to the committee and members of the Society.

We have a new Chairman of the Litter Committee, Mr. Christopher Morrison, whose first mammoth task was to arrange the 'clean up Parkgate' campaign. We welcome him to our ranks and trust that throwing him in at the deep end will not dampen his enthusiasm!

The stalwart and popular committee member Mr. F.W. French has taken over the Chairmanship of the Executive Committee at least until the Annual General Meeting. He will be well known to members as he was formerly the Hon. Secretary for one year, so he is fully conversant with the workings of the Society.

Unfortunately, the proposed trip to Tatton Park met with only 14 acceptances which unfortunately was too many for a mini-bus but not, of course, sufficient for a normal coach. In view of the lack of support, we had to cancel. Mrs. B. Moore organised this outing in response to the suggestion from local residents that the Society did not offer any social events. We are pleased to have made the attempt but, in view of the apathetic outcome, doubt if we shall repeat the performance.

On 6th April last, a very successful Cheese and Wine Party was held at Brooke House, by the kind invitation of Mr. & Mrs. Norris. We were pleased to see those members who attended and hope they enjoyed the opportunity of informal discussion with the Committee. In view of the preceding paragraph we should like to hear members suggestions for future gatherings. Please contact either our Chairman or Secretary whose telephone numbers are noted above.

Continued

Immediately following the demise of Neston Urban District Council, members of Ellesmere Port District Council contacted our Secretary, who has since met Mr. McGarva, Borough Engineer, Mr. Plant, Planning Director and Mr. Hanlon, Highways. Mrs. Clarke is pleased to report useful conversations were held. Mr. Bailey of the Planning Department attended the recent Cheese and Wine Party with his wife. At the meeting, Messrs. McGarva and Plant were able to allay the fears that Parkgate could become the 'poor relation' and we look forward to a long and successful working partnership.

Sub-Committee Reports

Conservation - Chairman Mr. H. Vollers 336 1359

There is nothing spectacular to report as most of the time consuming work undertaken by this sub-committee is taken up on studying planning applications which have been placed before Ellesmere Port, regarding properties within the area of primary interest. These include planned alterations to one of the Dee Cottages, the change of use of the Old School House - this was felt to be detrimental to the environmental aspect of a conservation area - and the painting of the Boathouse Restaurant.

You may remember the proposed 'surgeries' mentioned by Mr. P. Williams during his talk last October. Owing to the re-organisation of local government, these have had to be postponed but the committee will certainly follow up this matter of considerable local interest.

If there are any matters that may affect you and your property, please contact Mr. Vollers who will do his best to be of assistance.

Dee Barrage - Chairman Mr. G. Edwards 336 4744

As you may be aware, Cheshire County Council and others are in the process of contesting a claim by British Steel of ownership of land in the Dee Estuary. Committee member Mr. J. Grenfell has supplied the Authority with valuable information, as have many local residents who live on the Parade. The Society is maintaining a watching brief from the point of view of proven access within a conservation area.

With regard to the proposed siting of a reservoir on the marshes, there is little to report other than work seems unlikely to start within the next 10 years!

Historical - Chairman Mr. G. Place

A vote of thanks is due to Mrs. H. Wall-Jones and Miss C. Wilcox for their hard work in producing the booklet 'A Stroll through Parkgate'. We are please to note it has been selling 'like hot cakes! To date nearly 1,000 having been sold.

Many local shops and hotels have kindly been displaying the booklet and the Wirral Country Park have taken a number of copies for re-sale at the Thursaston Centre.

Litter - Chairman Mr. C. Morrison 336 4319

Our new Chairman worked very hard to organise the recent 'clean up Parkgate' campaign, which, we are pleased to report, was very successful. We are grateful to Mr. McGarva, Ellesmere Port Borough Engineer for supplying a vehicle with heavy lifting equipment to enable the removal of numerous large tree trunks washed up on the recent high tides. The committee were disappointed to see the almost immediate return of waste paper to the marshes and ask all interested parties to help us keep this unsightly rubbish at bay.

Continued

A letter has been sent to a number of traders on the Parade seeking their support in reducing the litter menace by displaying a notice requesting that their customers assist in "Keeping PARKGATE tidy" by making use of the many litter bins provided.

Trees - Chairman Mr. F.W. French 336 3113

You may have noticed that three of the four trees planted in the lay-by in Boathouse Lane have been completely destroyed by vandals. However, the remaining 59 trees planted last December are regularly inspected by Mr. French, who reports they have weathered the winter well.

Complaints were received by the Committee regarding the felling of mature trees in Manor Close which had in one case left a large and unsightly tree stump. One local resident had approached the Local Authority regarding possible tree replacement and a letter was sent from the Society in similar vein. Whether it was the local resident or the Society who succeeded - or a combination of the two - but the outcome was that 12 flowering trees were planted and the previously mentioned unsightly tree stump surrounded by geraniums and other plants'.

The Society is not large in number and it makes even more vital that your subscriptions are paid to enable us to continue our efforts to maintain the character of Parkgate. If you have not paid YOURS - we are sure it is an oversight - please remit to

P. TAYLOR ESQ.,
EARLE CROFT,
EARLE DRIVE,
PARKGATE.

As soon as possible.

You will be pleased to know that in this time of ever increasing costs that the Society have held their subscription rates and indeed for Senior Citizens have reduced these to a mere 50p a year.

In conclusion, if there is any matter in which you feel the Society can be of help, please contact the appropriate Sub-Committee Chairman, or our Secretary Mrs. Clarke at 336 1069.

DON'T FORGET TO DIARY

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