



REGENCY SQUARE AREA SOCIETY NEWS LETTER N° 31

CELEBRATING THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

The Annual General Meeting on 26th March marks the fifth anniversary of our Society.

We are hoping that as many members as possible will come to the meeting and turn it into a celebration.

The formal business of the meeting is listed in the Agenda. It should not take much more than half an hour.

After that we will be serving wine and soft drinks. With the help of some 35 mm slides we will be looking back over the Society's first five years.

We will also be looking to the future, so if you have any ideas on what the Society should be doing now, this will be your chance to air them.

All our previous AGMs have been held at the Portland House Hotel in Regency Square. Sadly that has now closed.

We are therefore very grateful to the manager of the Metropole who has generously offered us the use of the York Room and waived the normal hire fee.

So, please do come to this rather special AGM. And bring any friends or neighbours who are interested in finding out about the Society. Non-members will be welcome as guests.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The fifth Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in the York Room at the Metropole Hotel at 8 pm on Monday 26 th March 1984.

AGENDA

- 1 Minutes of the previous meeting
- 2 The Chairman will present the Committee's report
- 3 The Treasurer will present the Financial report
- 4 The meeting will fix subscription rates for 1984/5; last year's AGM recommended increased rates to apply from March '84
- 5 The meeting will elect officers and committee members
- 6 Any other business

Wine and soft drinks will be served after the meeting and slides will be shown reviewing the history of the Society.

The Treasurer will be available to receive subscriptions.

REGENCY SQUARE AREA SOCIETY

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 29 - 2 - 84

INCOME

Membership subscriptions	140.00
Donations received	14.50
Income from functions (gross)	77.50
	<u>232.00</u>

EXPENDITURE

Printing and Stationery	64.52
Room Hire	5.00
Refreshments	3.20
Donations made	3.00
Subscriptions	5.00
Functions (misc. expenses)	10.72
Coach Hire	103.30
Misc. Expenses	<u>4.66</u>
	<u>204.40</u>

Surplus of Income over Expenditure	£ <u>27.60</u>
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Balance Sheet as at 29 - 2 - 84

Balance brought forward	323.20
Added in 83/84	<u>27.60</u>
Accumulated funds	350.80
Membership subs. received in advance	<u>2.00</u>
	£ <u>352.80</u>
Cash at Bank	333.76
Cash in Hand	<u>19.04</u>
	£ <u>352.80</u>

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the financial records of the Regency Square Area Society for the year ending 29 February 1984 and am satisfied that these accounts represent a true and fair statement of the Society's affairs.

Signed Derek Lawrence

ELECTIONS

Three committee members are resigning from the committee this year. They are Mr H Ward, Mrs S Dean and Miss B Fyfe..

On behalf of all members of the Society, the committee expresses its thanks to these members for their contribution to the Society.

The following nominations have been made for the re-election of officers and committee members:

CHAIRMAN	Eddie Edwards
SECRETARY	Richard Pau
TREASURER	Roger Hinton
COMMITTEE	Mrs A C Dear
	Mr W Hampson
	Mr J Henderson

Mr Hampson was co-opted by the committee during the year and has served as the Society's representative on the Conservation Areas Advisory Committee.

We need more committee members to take the places of those resigning. If you would like to nominate yourself or another member as a committee member or an officer then please complete the form below and send it to the Secretary by 10 am on Monday 26 March 1984.

To Richard Pau, 40 Regency Square

I would like to be considered for election
OR

I nominate for election (delete one)
as (tick one)

Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Committee Member

Name of nominee

Address of nominee

If you are nominating someone else, please give your name

Please do not nominate anyone without their agreement.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Your committee has met each month. We consider all planning applications for the area and any other issues raised by members.

Our views on planning matters are represented to the Council through the Conservation Areas Advisory Committee. Our delegate to this committee was until recently Howard Ward.

Sadly, because of ill health following a fall he had to stop going to the meetings. Since then we have been represented by Wally Hampson.

Some of the issues we have dealt with are:

Dutton Forshaw site in Regency Mews

After successfully preventing NCP from opening a carpark on this site, we supported local councillors in an attempt to persuade the Council to develop it for housing.

The Council was not willing to do this. Meanwhile an application for a skating rink development was opposed by the Society on the grounds of noise and traffic; the application was rejected. The most recent application is for sheltered housing, which the Society supports, and an office block which we have opposed because of its impact on houses at the top of Regency Square.

63 Regency Square

For a number of years the Society put pressure on the Council to do something about the shocking condition of this property.

At last, after a public enquiry, the former owner decided to sell the house and it is now being re-developed as self contained flats.

Preston Lodge

The residents of Preston Lodge were plagued for months by noise from a ventilation plant. The plant served the casino in Preston Street but was located on the top of the flats at the rear in Little Preston Street.

With help from the Society the residents took court action. At last, after threats of more court action, they have won the day; major modifications to the plant have removed the noise problem.

Artists' stands on Seafrost

These display stands in front of the pier spoil the sea view from Regency Square in the summer. Last year they were half empty most of the time.

The Society is pressing the Council to move them onto the lower promenade.

Industrial Development behind 26/27 Russel Sq

In spite of opposition from the Society and local residents, the Council granted permission for this site to be used for industry. However, fairly strict conditions were imposed regarding noise.

So far nothing seems to have happened on the site.

Other Planning Proposals

We have consistently opposed applications to change residential properties to commercial use and have taken up a number of other issues.

SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

As well as fighting to preserve our local environment, it is the Society's aim to promote good neighbourliness in our area.

We have organised a number of activities during the year:

Bench renovation

Once again we tried to organise a bench cleaning day in Regency Square. Unfortunately not many members were able to spare time to join in so it was less successful than the previous year.

However, we did clean down and oil a couple of benches. Hopefully this will prolong their useful life.

Coach Outing

It was a gloriously sunny day when we had our coach outing to Portsmouth. It proved a very popular trip; thanks to the hard work of retiring committee member, Mrs Dean the coach was almost fully booked.

The committee would be pleased to have suggestions from members for where we could go this year.

Firework Night

The firework party proved as popular as ever. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous member, the Society did not have to pay for the fireworks. Without this kind gift the Society would have had to dip into its reserves to cover the cost.

THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY

Our Society is affiliated to the Brighton Society, which is dedicated to preserving the environment throughout Brighton and Hove.

Two of our committee members are on the Brighton Society committee so we have close liaison with this important conservationist group.

EXHIBITION TRAFFIC

The Society has been campaigning ever since it was founded to reduce the congestion caused by exhibition traffic in St Margaret's Place and Queensbury Mews.

There has been some improvement in St Margaret's place following the building of new loading bays. But the mews is still completely blocked at times during exhibitions.

We intend to continue fighting on this issue. Recently we had a useful meeting with our new community policeman, Constable Mick Harris. He is well aware of the problems caused by the exhibition traffic.

THE FUTURE

The only thing you can be sure of when it comes to the future is that it won't be like the past.

Things have to change. The important thing is to ensure they change for the better. That is what our Society is for.

For example, did you know that the Council is planning a major change to traffic arrangements around Churchill Square? The proposals will improve things for bus passengers and shoppers.

But what will they do for nearby residents? There will be buses in Cannon Place and more traffic in Preston Street.

How will the plans affect you? You can see them in detail at the Planning office at 33 North Street.

What can you do if you don't like them? One thing you can do is tell your Society. If our members do not like the plans, then it is our job to fight to get them changed.

Of course we can only do that if we have a strong Society. So, please help to keep it strong by re-newing your membership and encouraging a neighbour to join.

DON'T DELAY — RENEW TODAY

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW

At the AGM last year it was agreed that the subscriptions should go up as from March 1984. This is the first rise since the Society was formed.

To renew your membership please send the form below to the Treasurer together with your subscription. Alternatively you can pay your subscription at the AGM.

Cheques should be made payable to the Regency Square Area Society.