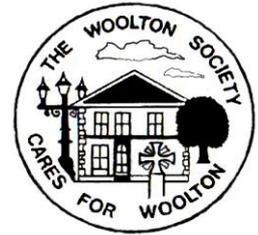


THE WOOLTON SOCIETY

www.wooltonsociety.org.uk

ISSUE NO:329 January/February 2014

THE WOOLTON SOCIETY - SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 40 YEARS



NEWSLETTER



The Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Councillor Gary Millar with our chairman, Edith McGlashan at the unveiling of the centenary plaque on 9th November 2013. See also pages 2 & 8 of this issue.

Newsletter contents in full:

Society news: page 2

Woolton news: page 3

Planning news & applications: pages 4 to 8

Society news

Annual General meeting of October 2013

At the AGM held on October 16th, the officers & committee for the society for the following year were elected.

Chairman: Edith McGlashan

Vice chair: Henry Stott

Society secretary: Paul Wilkie

Treasurer: Charles Davies

Environment secretary: Chris Darnton

Membership secretary: Jean Bates

Committee members: Les Baldwin, Jean Davies, Ann Fearon, John Hibbert, Janet Hudson, Paul King, Brian Watt

Diary Dates & next talks

The programme for Spring & Summer 2014 has been drawn up, with all talks being held in Woolton Village Club on Allerton Road, starting at 7.30pm.

March 19th will see a talk from John Tiernan, entitled 'Benevolent Patronage, Libraries in Liverpool. Mr Tiernan is chairman of the Liverpool History Society, & has worked as a manager in Liverpool City libraries for many years as well as being an active public library historian. His talk will relate the establishment & growth of public libraries in Liverpool, which is a topic of intense local interest in the light of the current economic climate. This is contrasted with the importance given to public libraries by our civic forefathers, & patrons such as Andrew Carnegie.

May 21st speaker is to be Christina Clarke, who will have as her subject Charles Rennie McIntosh: artist, architect & designer.

July 16th will see landscape artist Anthony Smith showing his work as artist in residence at Chester Zoo.

Fuller details of the May & July talks will be in issue 330, on our notice board beside the HSBC bank, & on our website.

Recently we have been able to use the large downstairs room, televised football games permitting, so please check on arrival to see if we are upstairs or downstairs on the night.

Non members as well as members are welcomed at all talks, which are free to enter. Membership forms will be available at the door, if requested.

Trips & Outings

Long serving members may remember the days out which used to be a feature of the society's Summer & Winter programmes. Trips were organised to York, Stratford on Avon, Whitby, & also once on the Settle to Carlisle railway. The Society has decided to revive the outings, & an evening coach trip around Liverpool is planned for **Wednesday 18th June**. This will be led by Richard Baker, aka Ritchie the Ranger, & will leave Woolton at 7pm for approx. 2 hours. Fuller details of the itinerary & prices will be in issue 330, and priority will be given to Society members when booking.

Centenary Plaque

Woolton society chairman Edith McGlashan was one of the guests at the unveiling of the Centenary Plaque on Saturday 9th November. The Lord Mayor, Councillor Gary Millar, made an amusing & well received speech before setting out on a walkabout through the village, ending with a visit to Woolton baths.

The bronze plaque, which commemorates the 100th anniversary of Woolton's incorporation into the City of Liverpool, is situated to the right of the Woolton Society notice board, on the side wall of the HSBC bank. An image of the plaque is on page 8 of this issue.

Woolton News

Woolton in Bloom

Belated congratulations to Woolton in Bloom after winning gold medals from the RHS in the Urban Community category, after judges from both North West in Bloom & Britain in Bloom visited the village last Summer. The awards ceremonies were held in October, in Southport & Cleethorpes respectively, with Horticultural Manager Kerry Peacock being honoured with a Community Champion award by the RHS. The following quote is from the judges' report:

'Although a previous winner in Britain in Bloom, this was the first time that Woolton had been entered as an Urban Community. What was evident from the start & throughout is that community is at the heart of what Woolton in Bloom is about, but it is so much more than that, with excellence in horticultural standards everywhere that we went, & a great awareness of the need to be environmentally aware & responsible in the way that they work. This is an entry of enormous merit, fully warranting the only gold awarded in the category.'

The cleanliness of the village was also commended by the judges. We are very fortunate in having our own street cleaner, George, ably assisted by an army of volunteer sweepers & litter pickers prior to each judging.

Woolton in Bloom was honoured with a civic reception at the Town Hall on 12th November, when the Lord Mayor, Councillor Gary Millar, praised their efforts over the past ten years of success in the RHS competitions.

Woolton has now been entered in the prestigious **Champion of Champions category for 2014**, one of only 6 selected in the entire country. This will mean even more effort from the WIB group & new volunteers are always welcome, with all offers of help gratefully accepted. No specialist knowledge is needed, as pavement sweepers & painters of tubs are as necessary as those who can plant & prune. The 2014 official calendar for WIB, featuring photographs of Woolton old & new, has been a great success & has nearly sold out. A few copies, reduced now to £3.50, may still be found at the WIB stall on farmers market days, or can be ordered from D.Brown on Woolton Street.

Friends of Reynolds Park

The RHS judges reported that *'Reynolds Park is splendid, with a lovely walled garden featuring rose & herbaceous borders, topiary area, trees & an extensive wildflower meadow.'* Peter the gardener was praised for his work in the park.

The wildflower meadow will see planting from KPMG volunteers in May, with local schools St Julie's & Much Woolton growing plants & seedlings. Donated seed trays would be welcomed, contact FORP chairman Geoff on 428 6409.

There will be no more memorial seats placed in the Walled Garden, with any new seats placed in the main park. One has already been installed on a firm base, alongside the standard park benches.

The next FORP meeting will be on **Wednesday 12th March** at 7pm in Tesco's coffee shop.

Ticket To Read

Ticket to Read, set up after the closure of Woolton Library, will be celebrating its first birthday on February 12th. Free tea or coffee & birthday cake will be available in the Simon Peter Centre on both **Wednesday 12th & Monday 10th February**, between 1.30 & 4.30pm.

TTR held a fundraising Christmas Cracker event in December, with readings, songs & poems. This very enjoyable evening raised enough to pay the rent at the SPC for the next three months, but donations are always welcomed, & fundraising events will continue.

Woolton's community library is based at two venues in the village, with the following days & times:

The Simon Peter Centre, Church Road: Mondays & Wednesdays 1.30 to 4.30

Linksvie Tower, Vale Road: Thursdays 1.00 to 3.00

All are welcome to browse, but please remember that cake is available only during the birthday week!

New Businesses in Woolton

Century 21 Estate Agents is at 33 Allerton Road L25 7RE. Phone 428 3647

This independent agency took over the old Yorkshire Building Society site with Director Dan Pennington at the helm. Dan reports brisk business in the rental market, reflecting Woolton's status as a desirable place to live.

Parker & Dicce salon & spa is at 49 Allerton Road & offers a wide range of hairdressing, beauty & spa treatments. Opening hours are 9.30 to 6pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday, with late night opening to 8pm on Thursdays & Fridays. Phone 428 6060.

The Bag Tree is now open in 54 Allerton Road, specialising in fashion bags such as Radley, Yoshi, Mulberry & Braccialini. Umbrellas, & a range of men's wallets & briefcases, plus a vintage section, are also available. Opening hours are 9.00 to 5pm, phone 428 0101.

The Woolton Society welcomes all new businesses to the village & we wish them well.

Woolton Community Life

This group, which was set up to challenge loneliness in Woolton, hopes to have its directory of services printed very soon. This will list all the membership groups & activities available in the village, & will be hand delivered to many addresses, as well as copies being available in doctors' surgeries, shops, cafes & restaurants.

The Woolton Society is listed in the directory, & has made a donation towards the cost of printing.

Planning News & Applications

Plot of land on Church Road South

The primary aim of The Woolton society is the preservation of the integrity of Woolton Village and its environs. To this end the Society is regularly consulted on planning matters by individuals and businesses to ensure that an application will meet the standards of a conservation area.

The Woolton Society was consulted in this way in October 2013 by Dreaming Spires, a Manchester based design practice. Their application is to build a block of eight 2-bed apartments, with underground parking, on the strip of land behind Barclays bank and beside St James' church hall on Church Road South. After some deliberation the Society has decided to oppose the application on several grounds: overdevelopment of the site; the design being not in keeping with the rest of the road in terms of size and architecture; the loss of trees and greenery; and the disruption & congestion that will ensue.

Concerns have also been raised about the excavations involved in constructing the large underground car park as the water table is very high in this area. As most members will know, the Lodes Pond car park across Allerton Road from this proposed development is prone to frequent flooding. A Society member & resident of Church Road South reported that his cellar regularly floods with water during the Winter, and had the architects considered the effect of excavation on the water table? The society is very concerned that this proposal will exacerbate flooding in this area by (a) removing the soakaway afforded by the current green space and (b) the large underground car park being a significant displacement of the water table. As we are all aware, flooding seems to be on the increase around the country as the land's capacity to absorb increased rainfall is frequently exceeded. In many areas of the country, as well as flooding there is the issue of storm drains overflowing with consequent raw sewage pollution into people's homes and into rivers resulting in major fish kills and a deteriorating natural environment. Are we to have similar problems with Woolton's storm drains in future aggravated by the removal of water table capacity? It would appear that the developers have not addressed this issue satisfactorily.

So far there have been 111 objections to the proposals, more than for any other application received by the planners, but still no date from the officials to discuss plans with the public.

This matter is ongoing, and we will keep our members informed via our newsletter, notice board and website. See proposed elevations on pages 7 and 8. For more information see the council's planning website, planning application no.13F/2556.

The Elephant Hotel

There has recently been a change of management at The Elephant, which has caused some concern among those who remember the last change, when the elephant's head was smashed down, the hotel was painted purple & it was renamed Casa El Crocodillo. Happily, the new manager Charlotte Kemp has met the committee to assure us that she is very conscious of the hotel's listed status, & that any refurbishment will be sympathetic to the values of the conservation area. There will be a meeting in February when planned changes to the restaurant & garden area will be discussed with the committee. This will be reported in issue 330.

Double glazing & replacement windows

The Society has advised a local resident who wishes to install double glazing to her house within the conservation area. She had been advised in the past that it would not be possible to find a system that would be acceptable to the planners, but this is no longer the case as several companies now make timber conservation grade double glazing systems that are compatible with the regulations. Coincidentally, the recent Wavertree society newsletter reports that planning permission for UPVC windows has been given for a house in the Wavertree Garden Suburb conservation area.

We must take this opportunity to remind all members that the onus is on the householder to obtain planning permission for work on properties within the conservation area before any work can proceed. A map showing the conservation area is on the Society's notice board & website. The planning office can be contacted on 233 3021.

SFX & Saint Julie's schools

The planned merger of the two schools on one site bordered by Beaconsfield Road & Woolton Hill Road is causing considerable consternation among residents, especially as the planned retirement village on the site of Knolle Park is adjacent to the proposed school site. This is a quiet residential area, with narrow roads, & the increase in traffic during & after the work will have a severely detrimental effect on the environment.

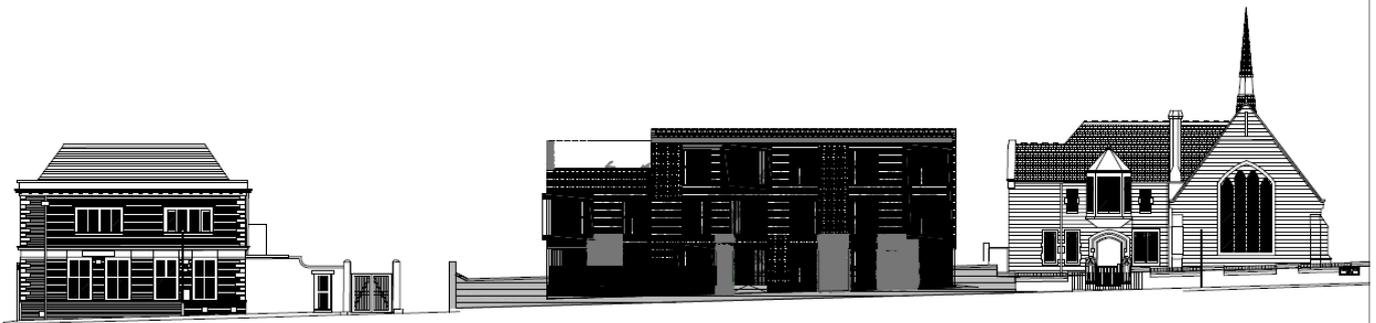
A meeting to discuss the proposals for the school site is to be held at a date shortly after this issue goes to press, but those on e-mail will be notified & urged to attend. A report will be in issue 330.

The following is a summary of planning applications received by the City council since our last planning newsletter. See <http://northgate.liverpool.gov.uk/PlanningExplorer17/GeneralSearch.aspx>

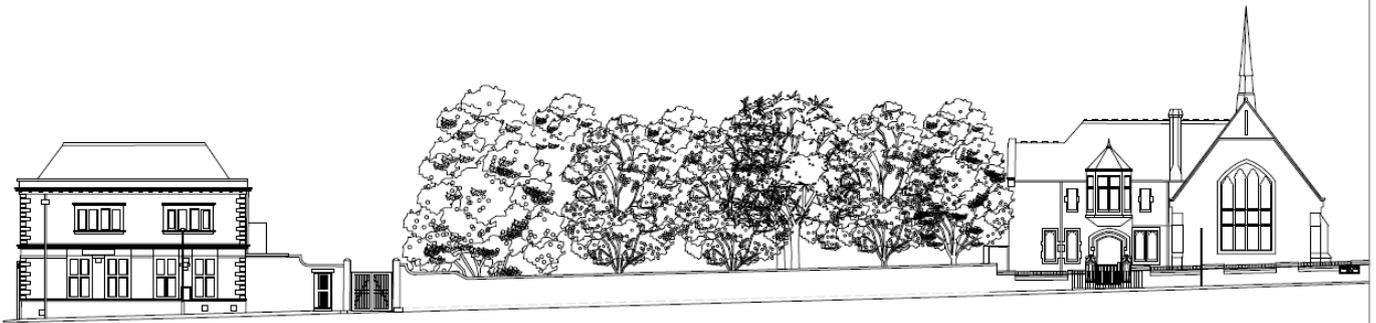
Contact the Society at environment@wooltonociety.org.uk re. planning matters.

Applic'n Number	Site Address	Development Description	Status	Date Register'd	Decision
13F/2698	17a Woolton Street Liverpool L25 5NH	To use vacant light industrial unit as a gymnasium ** amended site location plan submitted **	REGISTERED	16-01-2014	
13H/2265	11 Heath Hey Liverpool L25 4TJ	To erect 2 storey extension to the side	REGISTERED	16-01-2014	
13F/2917	5 - 7 Allerton Road Liverpool L25 7RA	To use vacant shop as a cafe (use class A3) opening 0830 - 2200 Mon - Sat and 0930 - 1600 hours on Sunday, use garden to rear as a tea garden and carry out associated minor external alterations	REGISTERED	06-01-2014	
13H/2995	7 Meadow Oak Drive Liverpool L25 3SZ	To erect single storey extension at front and convert part of garage to a study	REGISTERED	31-12-2013	

13F/1792	Newstead Farm Quarry Street Liverpool L25 6DY	To sever part of garden and erect 2 storey detached dwelling with vehicular entrance, landscaping and boundary treatments. **Revised siting and design**	REGISTERED	20-12-2013	
13H/2935	122 Allerton Road Liverpool L25 7RH	To install replacement timber windows to side and front	REGISTERED		
13H/2937	10 Woolton Park Close Liverpool L25 6JZ	To carry out external alterations in connection with conversion of garage into living accommodation and insert new windows in side elevation	REGISTERED	17-12-2013	
13A/2916	5 - 7 Allerton Road Liverpool L25 7RA	To display externally illuminated fascia sign	REGISTERED	16-12-2013	
13F/2480	St James Church Church Road South Liverpool L25 7RT	To install new glazed doors to elevation fencing Church Road South and relocate existing timber doors behind	REGISTERED	16-12-2013	
13F/2764	Black Bull 3 Gateacre Brow Liverpool L25 3PA	To change use from cobbled forecourt to external seating area (A3) to be used between 11.30 and 22.00 hours Sunday to Wednesday and 11.30 and 00.00 hours Thursday to Saturday	REGISTERED	12-12-2013	
13H/2757	Winster Woolton Park Liverpool L25 6DU	To remove portion of sandstone wall to provide new access with dropped pavement crossing and gates	REGISTERED	10-12-2013	
13F/2837	St. Francis Xaviers College Beaconsfield Road Liverpool L25 6EG	To install vertical platform lift at SFX squash and social club within the grounds	FINAL DECISION	05-12-2013	Approve with Conditions
/2807	Deanacre Allerton Road Liverpool L25 7RA	To install new railings to first floor walkway at rear replace railings within tower block with clear glazed screens within openings and install half glazed timber doors	FINAL DECISION	04-12-2013	Approve with Conditions
13H/2641	130 Quarry Street Liverpool L25 6HQ	To erect two storey extension to the side, single storey extension and orangery to the rear and single storey extension at front.	FINAL DECISION	21-11-2013	Approve with Conditions
13F/2185	St Gregorys House Halewood Road Liverpool L25 3SL	To vary conditions 2 and 20 attached to 13F/0080 so as to allow for a reconfigured car parking area at the front and reduce the age of one of the occupiers of each apartment from over 60 years to 55 years in connection with the erection of the 4 storey development of 20 apartments currently under construction *Amended description and plans received*	REGISTERED	28-10-2013	
13F/2556	Land off Church Road South Liverpool L25	To erect 3 storey building, incorporating basement car park to provide 8 apartments, create new vehicular access and layout hard and soft landscaping.	REGISTERED	25-10-2013	
13H/2512	Former Dairy Berrington Avenue Liverpool L25	To remove side windows and replace with double doors at ground floor	FINAL DECISION	18-10-2013	Approve with Conditions
13F/2383	Car Park at Deanacres Off Allerton Road 1 - 10 Deanacres, 49-59 Allerton Road Liverpool L25 7RE	To carry out hard standing works to car park area lift and relay existing paving and create bin store to rear of nos 5 - 10 Deanacres	FINAL DECISION	17-10-2013	Approve with Conditions
13F/2460	Ribble House Ribble Road Liverpool L25 5PT	To install new pitched roof over apartment block	FINAL DECISION	10-10-2013	Approve with Conditions
13H/2437	4 Rushton Place Liverpool L25 7RL	To erect single storey extension to side/rear, carry out external alterations to building, installation of rooflights to front and rear,	REGISTERED	08-10-2013	



PROPOSED STREET ELEVATION



EXISTING VIEW



The new centenary plaque unveiled on 9th November 2013 which is located adjacent to the Woolton Society's notice board on the side wall of the HSBC Bank in Allerton Road