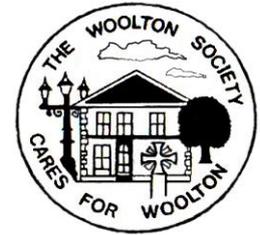


# THE WOOLTON SOCIETY

[www.wooltonociety.org.uk](http://www.wooltonociety.org.uk)

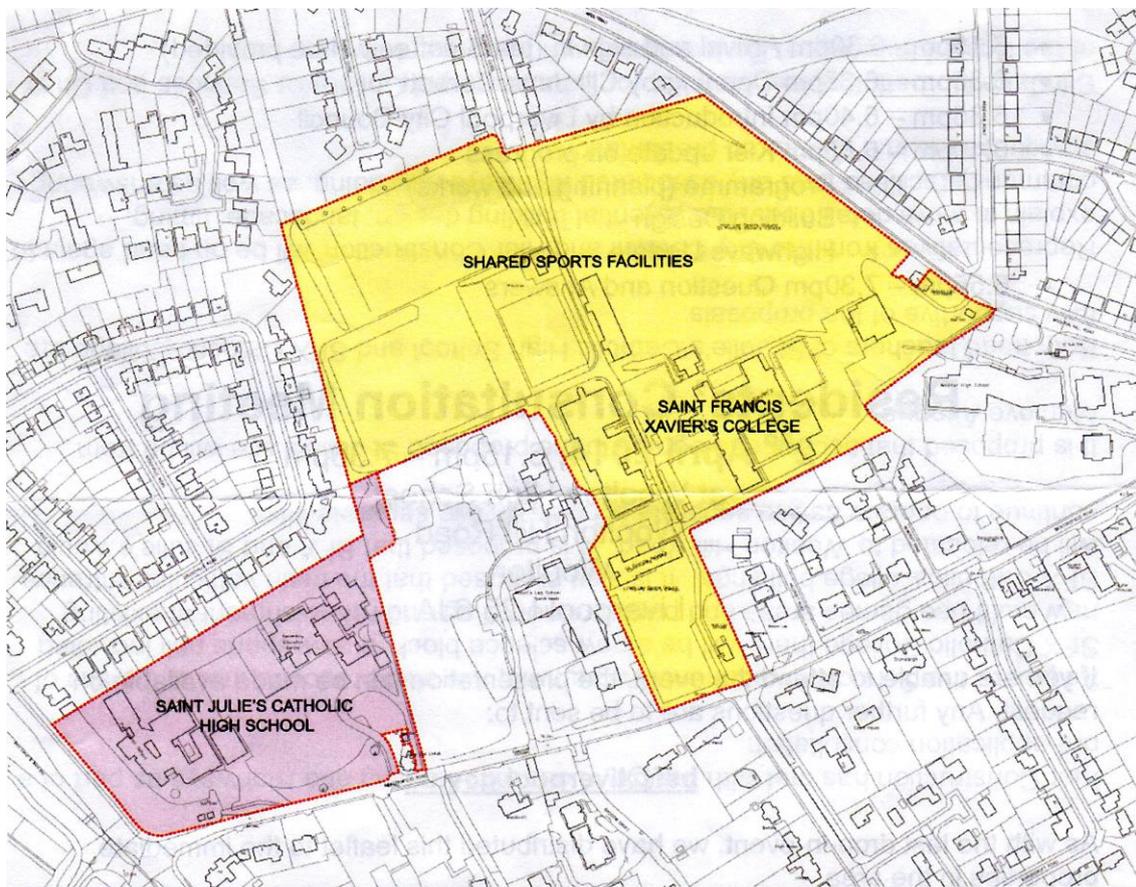
ISSUE NO:330 April 2014

THE WOOLTON SOCIETY - SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 40 YEARS



## NEWSLETTER

### *SFX/St Julie's site: the row continues*



Site Plan showing Proposed Site areas

*For reports see pages 5 & 6 of this issue.*

#### **Newsletter contents in full:**

**Society news: pages 2 & 3**

**Woolton news: page 4**

**Planning news & applications: pages 5 to 8**

# *Society News*

## **Summer Outing: an evening trip around Liverpool on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June**

The Society has planned an evening excursion around some of the most scenic parts of Liverpool, accompanied by guide Richard Baker, aka Ritchie the Ranger. This will take place on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June**, one of the longest days in the year with daylight until nearly 10pm. The itinerary is as follows:

First stop is to be the Palm house in Sefton Park, to hear the tale of the founding of this iconic building. Next we will go on to one of Liverpool's oldest churches, The Ancient Chapel of Toxteth on Park Road, which will be opening by special arrangement with the Society. On then to Otterspool, to hear of the creation of the Promenade & its creator John Brodie. Progress into the city centre will give sight of The Albert Dock, Liverpool One, the new Museum of Liverpool & The Three Graces.

St George's Hall is the next stop, where we will hear of the history of one of the finest buildings in Europe according to Pevsner, before setting off back to Woolton.

At each stop there will be opportunities to alight from the coach to see more, although some members may prefer to stay seated.

**The coach will be at St Peter's on Church Road at 6.45pm for a 7pm start, & will return at approximately 9pm.**

**The price will be £8 for Woolton Society members & £10 for non members.**

**Tickets will be on sale at the talk on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, or can be reserved by ringing 428 2680.**

**In the past our excursions have been extremely popular, & have sold out very quickly. Please order your tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.**

## **Our next talk: Charles Rennie Mackintosh: artist, architect & designer**

Christina Clarke, a well known local speaker on a variety of topics, will be speaking to the society on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May**. Her subject will be Scottish polymath Charles Rennie Mackintosh, 1868-1928 whose influence in art & design can still be seen around us nearly a century after his death. The talk will be illustrated with many beautiful images of Rennie Mackintosh's work.

## **A date for your diary**

**On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July** Anthony Smith, artist & teacher, will be speaking of his work as artist in residence at Chester Zoo, & showing images of some of his wildlife paintings in oils & watercolours. More details in issue 331.

**Talks are held at Woolton Village Club, starting at 7.30pm, & are free to attend, members & non-members alike. We have the use of the large downstairs room, televised football games permitting, so check on arrival to save toiling upstairs.**

## **Libraries in Liverpool: the talk of March 19<sup>th</sup>.**

John Tiernan gave an informative & very well received talk on Libraries in Liverpool, contrasting the money & concern invested in establishing libraries in the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries, compared to the state of services now. He ended on a lighter note, with a cartoon first published in the 1960s. This showed a librarian apologising to a potential borrower: "Sorry about War & Peace. The library may be closed before you finish it". Sadly that is still true now.

## **Heritage Open Day: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

Following the success of the society's participation in HOD last year we have registered to take part in the event this coming September. The society will conduct an architectural highlights walk, with a route to be decided, together with Beatles Trails, which were very popular with visitors last year. Much interest in Woolton & the society was generated by the HOD, for which we thank English Heritage for inclusion in their directory. This attracted visitors from all over the country, as well as

many favourable comments with Woolton looking its best in the late summer sunshine. Fuller details of the HOD will be in issue 331 of this newsletter, as well as on our notice board & website.

### **Farmers Market**

The Society hopes to take a stall at the Woolton Farmers Market in June or July. There will be opportunities to join the Society, or buy gift membership for that 'person with everything' in your life, as well as peruse photographs of old Woolton, & buy copies of our History of Much Woolton, priced at £3. Copies of The History are always available at Brown's on Woolton Street.

### **An appeal for help**

As several of our newsletter distributors have given notice of their retirement from their delivery round we are appealing for help. Most distributors deliver less than twenty newsletters, & to an area convenient for their own address, so if you want to meet new friends, & have a nice walk too, please volunteer to help with deliveries. Assistance in sorting & folding the newsletters after they arrive from the printers is also needed.

Our committee is looking to recruit new blood too, so if you think you could bring energy, enthusiasm, bright ideas or just cakes, please do not be shy. Ask any current committee member, visible at all talks, or at the Farmers Market stall in the summer.

### **From Our Archives: the first in an occasional series**

We have been given many copies of previous newsletters & committee minutes by former Society secretary & long time Woolton resident Bea McKenzie.

The following is an extract from issue 82 in December 1983, when the Chairman was John D. Ross:

*Our Chairman has suggested that one of the problems facing the Woolton Community is that of finding some way of easing the dreadful TRAFFIC PROBLEM (sic) in the Village. The Society has, of course, had this in mind for long enough, but all efforts have, so far, made little impression & it is time that we had another go. It is possible that the planned extension of the M57 may be of some help in diverting heavy traffic coming from Speke & Garston, if & when it materialises, but it will do little to relieve the problem of Woolton Street & bus stops.*

*In addition there are the projects already started, such as watching developments at the Archbishop's House, The Old School in School Lane & the Hunts Cross Conservation Area. We have too the photographing of trees & general tidiness of the area.*

*It has sometimes been a criticism of the Society that it is too much interested in conserving the status quo & all that is old, & less in the quality of life of the present inhabitants. This is really an unfair criticism but it is perhaps as well to set down at the beginning of a new year for the society that, although we are most anxious to preserve the character of our village, we realise that all communities evolve & must adapt to the needs of the time. Woolton is a living entity & not a museum.*

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*Planning permission is again being sought for the development of the Hargreaves site, at the corner of Mason Street & Woolton Street, for retail premises & offices. This is essentially the same proposal that was submitted in 1980. At that time the Society objected on the grounds that there were not proper arrangements for refuse disposal. In addition, we considered that such a development would increase the already serious traffic problem in the area.*

*We consider that these objections are just as valid today & are making the appropriate representations.*

*In addition to this we are bringing to the attention of the City Engineer the deplorable condition of the footwalk in Woolton Street in front of this site.*

There was also an appeal for newsletter distributors, plans for a membership drive, & an advertisement for the January 1984 talk. Mrs Betty Morton of Merseyside Consumer Advisory Service was to give a talk entitled "When can I get my money back?"

**More extracts from our archives will follow in future issues of the newsletter.**

# Woolton News

## St James Church

Representatives of The Woolton Society have been invited to the re-dedication ceremony for St James Church on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**. This follows major renovation work at the church, which will be handed back to the congregation in early April. A report will follow in issue 331.

## Woolton in Bloom

WIB volunteers are now preparing for the arrival of Royal Horticultural Society judges for the Champion of Champions category of Britain in Bloom. This is a rare honour, with only six entrants in this category in the whole country & follows a decade of success with many gold medals won in both North West in Bloom & Britain in Bloom competitions. The judging will take place on a date between 28<sup>th</sup> July & 8<sup>th</sup> August, with no efforts being spared in going for gold again. The Jubilee crown on Kings Drive is to be replaced with another striking construction, this time with a Great War theme, & there will be many of the show-stopping displays & planters which have made the Village so beautiful in recent years. The confirmed date will be advised later.

Volunteers are always welcomed, enquire at the WIB stall on Farmers Market days, or ring Horticultural Manager Kerry on 421 0222

It is hoped that the Open Gardens event will take place again this summer, providing that there are enough gardens to visit. If you live in Woolton, & think that your garden would be of interest to visitors, please contact Kerry at the above number.

The WIB calendar for 2015 will be put together soon, with a repeat of the sell-out theme of this year's calendar 'Woolton Old & New'. If anyone has old photographs of the area, & would like to share them with others, please contact Charles on 428 2680. All prints will be returned once scanned.

## Friends of Reynolds Park

Volunteers from KPMG will be planting seeds in the wildflower meadow on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May** from 9.30am, assisted in the afternoon by children from Bishop Martin School's reception class. It is hoped that our members will be able to visit the park on that day to encourage the workers, or even to join in & help out. Ring FORP chairman Geoff on 428 6409 for more details.

KPMG has also donated £250 to FORP funds.

There is concern among FORP members & park users about plans to greatly reduce the size of the holly hedge on the park's Eastern boundary to 'manageable proportions'. This means cutting the hedge from its present height of about twenty feet to about four feet & will give a view of the large wall which borders the gardens of Longworth Way & The Ridgeway. Plans to trim the hedge are on hold at the moment, as birds are nesting in it, so work has been put off until August.

Anyone with views on this matter should ring 233 3001, & ask to leave an enquiry under Information/Comment on Parks. A council officer should then respond within five working days.

The next FORP meeting will be on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**, at 7pm in Tesco's coffee shop.

## Ticket to Read

After two very successful first birthday parties in February, TTR is now busier than ever, with many browsers & borrowers using the community library.

The times are:

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

Linksvie Tower, Vale Road: Thursdays 1.00 to 3.00

TTR will be holding a fund raising bag pack at Sainsbury's on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**, from 10.00 to 4.00.

Do support our community library. It may well be the only book service in the area before long.

## New businesses in the village

The former Health Food Store at 7 Allerton Road is in the process of being converted into a coffee shop. Your newsletter will investigate & report on the delicacies on offer in due course.

There is a note on an application put in by the shop owner on page 6 of this issue.

The former Landy's dress shop, also on Allerton Road, has been the scene of much activity in recent months. Last year there were concerns that an 'adult' shop in the Anne Summers style was about to open, but a sign recently erected advertises pet supplies. More details to follow as we know them. A business lost: The Victoria pub on Quarry Street has now closed, with the tenants being given notice to leave in January. Kevin & Carmel were always very generous with their time, allowing Ticket to Read to use their premises when Woolton library first closed, & were donors to Woolton in Bloom. The pub was featured, bedecked with Jubilee bunting, in the 2013 WIB calendar.

## *Planning News & Applications*

### **Development on Church Road South**

Planning permission for 8 flats has been granted on the orchard in Church Road South in its entirety. The council planning committee approved the application despite considerable opposition from The Woolton Society, The Woolton Village Residents Association, local councillors and many local residents. This large development will dominate the road and impose on St James's Church Hall and Barclays Bank buildings. It was considered by the Woolton Society that the box-shaped modern design, as shown in issue 329, was not in keeping with other buildings on Church Road South or in keeping with the Conservation area, not to mention overdevelopment of the area, parking and traffic issues, and loss of all the trees in the orchard.

The Environment Secretary of the Woolton Society and Councillor Malcom Kelly addressed the planning committee objecting to the development but this clearly fell on deaf ears.

In contrast to this development being allowed, The Woolton Society has been informed by a local resident that her planning application to replace the windows in her home with timber sliding sash replacement almost identical to the originals has been turned down by the council planning officers.

The Woolton Society has contacted the council officer responsible for conservation following concerns raised by residents about the rapidly deteriorating state of the Grade 1 Listed Woolton Hall. We await a response.

### **A Tale of Two Meetings**

Society Committee members have recently been involved in two meetings over developments in the area, one a public meeting outlining the proposed move of St Julies School to the old Lower Lea site, and the second with the new owners of the Elephant.

The proposed move of St Julies to the old Lower Lee site, impacts on the areas covered by both the Woolton Society and the Gateacre Society, however it was agreed with representatives of the Gateacre Society that the Woolton Society would take the lead on this. The proposal is to relocate St Julies School, and to close the Beaconsfield Road entrance to Saint Francis Xavier School, creating a new entrance on Woolton Hill Road. The meeting at St Mary's hall on 21<sup>st</sup> January was very unsatisfactory, plans and drawings were on display but those present were told to ignore them as they were out of date. The various men in suits were not wearing identification, so attendees were unaware of the job or status of those running the consultation. The planners said they had heard of the proposed Knolle Park development only the previous day, and hence had not taken account of it. Given that one of the major causes of concern was the huge increase in traffic at the troublesome Church Road/Beaconsfield Road mini –roundabout that would result from the changes, it did not inspire confidence. The Society will continue to monitor the situation, & report in future issues of the newsletter.

On a more encouraging note, the new owners of the Elephant invited members of the committee to attend a meeting between them and the council planning representatives to discuss proposed changes to the buildings. Whilst there are significant internal changes proposed, the external impact will be quite small, and entirely in keeping with the building and the conservation area. The committee members were encouraged by the approach the new owners were taking, and their willingness to involve the Society, and look forward to what promises to be an exciting renovation of

the premises. Pleasingly, the proposed renovations will include the garden facing Woolton Street, with a raised wall & railings to separate pub users from the pavement.

**Meeting with Maria Eagle MP on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March (SFX/St Julie’s site)**

After a large number of constituents attended the MP’s surgery on 22<sup>nd</sup> March to protest about the proposed St Julie’s relocation, a meeting was arranged for the following week in St Mary’s hall for a thorough discussion of the controversial proposals. This was attended by representatives of The Woolton Society, as well as numerous local residents. There was standing room only in the hall as the debate became very heated, with many people contesting the council view, repeated by our MP, that the proposed relocation of St Julie’s to a site adjacent to SFX on Beaconsfield Road would cause little disruption, & would not add greatly to the current traffic problems. It seems that having two schools with over a thousand pupils each, plus the proposed development of the Knolle Park/St Gabriel’s site at the top of Church Road, plus the planned redevelopment of Strawberry Field by The Salvation Army, all in close proximity, is quite acceptable to the planners, who look only at the financial gain to the council rather than the misery inflicted on locals & pupils alike.

Further consultations with residents are planned, which will be reported in issue 331.

Maria Eagle MP received a copy of newsletter 329, & has been added to our e-mail list to be sent future issues. We shall report any response from her on this matter.

**Licence Application, 7 Allerton Road, Woolton Village (former Health Food Store)**

Some residents have been notified that an application has been received for a Premises Licence to sell alcohol at the above address, which is being converted to a coffee shop.

The application is to supply alcohol between 8.30am & 8.00pm. Monday to Saturday, & 9.30am to 4.00 pm on Sunday.

Any concerns regarding the application should be sent to the City Council’s Licensing Unit, Room 219, Municipal Buildings, Dale Street, Liverpool L2 2DH, giving reasons for the objections.

All representations to be received by **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

**Proof that Woolton is not the only area to suffer from planning blight. This is an extract from the current issue of The Wavertree Society newsletter:**

***Former bowling green, Church Road Wavertree***

*A planning application has been submitted (ref.14F/0030) to build a 74-bed, two/three-storey care home on the site of the former Liverpool Bowling Club in Church Road, Wavertree. We have objected to the scale and design of the building, which we feel will radically change the character of the site - used as a bowling green for over 100 years - and detract from the views into and out of the nearby Wavertree Village Conservation Area.*

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@wooltonsociety.org.uk](mailto:environment@wooltonsociety.org.uk) re. planning matters.

Applic'n Number	Site Address	Development Description	Status	Date Register'd	Decision
<a href="#">14H/0718</a>	4 Parkwood Road Liverpool L25 4RJ	To erect single storey extension to the rear carry out garage conversion and extend garage to the side	REGISTERED	28-03-2014	
<a href="#">14L/0663</a>	Churchill & Co. Montagu House 10 Gateacre Brow Liverpool L25 3PB	To convert office building to 3 bed dwelling	REGISTERED	27-03-2014	

<a href="#">14DIS/0692</a>	18 High Street Woolton Liverpool L25 7TE	To discharge conditions 3, 4 and 5 attached to 13H/2020	REGISTERED	27-03-2014	
<a href="#">14F/0662</a>	Churchill & Co, Montagu House 10 Gateacre Brow Liverpool L25 3PB	To convert office building to 3 bed dwelling	REGISTERED	27-03-2014	
<a href="#">14F/0628</a>	Newstead Beaconsfield Road Liverpool L25 6EJ	To change use of second floor from office to 2 apartments	REGISTERED	21-03-2014	
<a href="#">14H/0576</a>	37 Hillview Gardens Liverpool L25 7XE	To erect ground floor and first floor extension to the side, new verandah and balcony at the rear, new stair well connecting all floors, entrance porch at front and detached garage	REGISTERED	17-03-2014	
<a href="#">14L/0159</a>	116 Allerton Road Liverpool L25 7RH	To install new window and lightwell to front and carry out internal alterations	REGISTERED	13-03-2014	
<a href="#">14L/0309</a>	Plot adjacent to 'Halkyn' Mount Park Liverpool L25 5JF	To carry out internal and external alterations (including extension) to curtilage listed structure in connection with construction of new dwelling on plot adjacent to 'Halkyn'	REGISTERED	10-03-2014	
<a href="#">14F/0330</a>	Plot adjacent to 'Halkyn' Mount Park Liverpool L25 6JW	To erect single dwelling with associated works (alternative to planning permission 11F/2871)	REGISTERED	10-03-2014	
<a href="#">14H/0506</a>	7 Baroncroft Road Liverpool L25 6ED	To erect single storey extension to the rear	REGISTERED	07-03-2014	
<a href="#">14DIS/0485</a>	Land off Church Road South Woolton Liverpool L25	To discharge condition 3 attached to 13F/2556	REGISTERED	05-03-2014	
<a href="#">14F/0486</a>	12 Courtenay Road Liverpool L25 4RL	To erect 2 storey dwelling house with associated hard and soft landscaping following demolition of existing dwelling	REGISTERED	05-03-2014	
<a href="#">14F/0157</a>	116 Allerton Road Liverpool L25 7RH	To erect detached timber out building to the rear for use as a staff room and install new window and light well to front	REGISTERED	28-02-2014	
<a href="#">14H/0335</a>	The Riffel Woolton Park Liverpool L25 6DR	To erect first floor extension to front and side of detached coach house and single storey extension to rear of main dwelling	REGISTERED	26-02-2014	
<a href="#">14H/0410</a>	66 Hunts Cross Avenue Liverpool L25 5NX	To erect single storey extension to side/rear	FINAL DECISION	24-02-2014	Approve with Conditions
<a href="#">14F/0409</a>	Meadow Court Out Lane Liverpool L25 5NW	To erect single storey extension to lounge, bin store extensions to side minor external alterations extend parking erect gazebo within grounds erect detached scooter store, new boundary treatments and hard landscaping works	REGISTERED	24-02-2014	
<a href="#">14H/0368</a>	427 Woolton Road Liverpool L25 4SY	To erect single storey extension to the rear	FINAL DECISION	19-02-2014	Approve with Conditions
<a href="#">14H/0366</a>	1 Ashton Square Liverpool L25 7TR	To install new pitched roof to rear extension, porch, and garage, replace windows and carry out minor alterations.	REGISTERED	19-02-2014	
<a href="#">14H/0357</a>	130 Quarry Street Liverpool L25 6HQ	To erect part two storey, part single storey extension at the side; convert garage and single storey extension at the front, single storey extension and orangery extension at the rear.	FINAL DECISION	19-02-2014	Approve with Conditions
<a href="#">14L/0364</a>	1 Ashton Square Liverpool L25 7TR	To install new pitched roof to rear extension, porch and garage, replace windows and carry out minor alterations	REGISTERED	19-02-2014	

<a href="#">13F/2764</a>	The land fronting onto the Black Bull Public House Gateacre Brow Liverpool L25 3PA	To change use from cobbled forecourt to external seating area (A3) to be used between 11.30 and 18.00 hours	REGISTERED	12-02-2014	
<a href="#">13H/2940</a>	23 Church Road Liverpool L25 5JE	To retain replacement glass front porch	FINAL DECISION	11-02-2014	Approve without Conditions
<a href="#">14H/0296</a>	76 Hollytree Road Liverpool L25 5PD	To erect single storey extension to the side/rear	FINAL DECISION	10-02-2014	Approve with Conditions
<a href="#">14H/0279</a>	17 Lynton Green Liverpool L25 6JB	To erect first floor extension to the side and carry out garage conversion	FINAL DECISION	07-02-2014	Approve with Conditions
<a href="#">14H/0278</a>	2 Baroncroft Road Liverpool L25 6EH	To erect single storey extension to side/rear and porch to the side	REGISTERED	07-02-2014	
<a href="#">14F/0166</a>	Bishop Martin C of E Primary School Church Road Woolton Liverpool L25 5JF	To erect canopy at side.	FINAL DECISION	06-02-2014	Approve with Conditions
<a href="#">14H/0127</a>	91 Church Road Liverpool L25 6DB	To erect single storey extension to the side and rear, first floor extension at the side, porch and canopy at the front	FINAL DECISION	31-01-2014	Approve with Conditions
<a href="#">13L/2941</a>	23 Church Road Liverpool L25 5JE	To retain replacement front porch.	FINAL DECISION	22-01-2014	Approve without Conditions
<a href="#">13H/2199</a>	15 Three Acres Close Liverpool L25 7DA	To retain single storey extension to side/rear	FINAL DECISION	20-01-2014	Approve with Conditions
<a href="#">14PH/0104</a>	9 Cuckoo Close Liverpool L25 4UA	To erect single storey extension at the rear - The extension will extend 4000mm - The maximum height of the extension will be 3533mm - The height of the extension to the eaves will be 2930mm	FINAL DECISION	17-01-2014	Prior Approval Given

*The Village Club in 1901 (picture from our archives).*

