

## **KNOWLE SOCIETY**

Minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting held at the Knowle Village Hall on 25th November 1999.

Present: Dr R.J.Bower (President), Mrs E.S Warner (Chairman) and 49 members.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from a number of members.

Minutes of the previous Meeting: The Minutes of the Meeting of 23rd November 1998 were approved.

### Chairman's Remarks:

The Chairman started by offering good wishes to Dr Bower, who had been ill, to Gary Masters who was withdrawing from the Amenities Sub-committee, on health grounds, and to Betty Walden, who was undergoing medical treatment.

The Chairman reported that all the usual activities are proceeding and the year 2000 will include participation in the Knowle Festival. It is anticipated that the Unitary Development proposals will require considerable Knowle Society time.

More volunteers are still needed to bring the Sub-committees up to strength and, in particular, a publicity officer is required.

The Chairman concluded by thanking all members of the Society who had helped to progress the Society's activities during the past year, in whatever capacity.

### Treasurer's Report:

The accounts for the year 1998/99 were circulated, read and approved.

In all funds, the Society had a credit balance of £8723.00.

### Membership Secretary's Report:

Membership stands at 1688. (14% of the Knowle ward electorate) It seemed very unlikely that the target of 2000 members by the millennium would be reached.

### Election of Officers and Committee Members:

The following elections were made:-

<b>President</b> -	Dr R.J.Bower
<b>Chairman</b> -	Mrs E.S.Warner
<b>Secretary</b> -	Mr C.H.Smith
<b>Treasurer</b> -	Mr K.Hornby
<b>Committee Members</b> -	Dr P.H.Morton, Messrs W.A.Birch, L.Edwards, A.J.C.Emsden.
<b>Hon Auditor</b> -	R.A.Lea & Co.

The Meeting was closed at 8.30pm.

*Elsie S. Warner*  
20th November 2000

## **KNOWLE SOCIETY**

Up-date by Sub-committee Chairmen on information in the last Newsletter.

### **Planning**

- (i) A site has now been agreed for a new Music and Drama building at Arden School.
- (ii) 51 Station Road - Application for a 3 storey office block has been refused.
- (iii) Proposals for telephone masts in Hampton Rd have been rejected. The Council is in discussion with the telephone companies over the problem.

### **Local History**

- (i) Work with the Knowle Junior School has been carried out again this year.
- (ii) Reprint of the History of Knowle - Pre-print orders have been disappointing. If sufficient are not forthcoming after further publicity, it might be necessary to abandon the project. The new chapter by Valerie Morton could be printed as a separate booklet. [Secretary's Note: The decision not to publish was subsequently taken.]

### **Nature Conservation**

- (i) The Woodland Trust has bought land near to Springfield School, for planting in 2000.
- (ii) Efforts are being made to promote wildlife corridors alongside footpaths.

### **Footpaths and Local Walks**

- (i) Lack of finance seriously affects work to be done on the borough's footpaths.
- (ii) The Society will continue to organise walks in 2000.

### **Amenities**

- (i) Implementation of the Knowle & Dorridge Traffic Plan will take several years, strongly influenced by the availability of funds.
- (ii) The meeting was assured that there is a frequent, motorised police presence in Knowle. Ward councillors would be greatly assisted in their efforts to improve conditions by help from residents in reporting undesirable incidents.
- (iii) Members were encouraged to attend the forthcoming public enquiry into Motorway Service Area applications.
- (iv) Signage to the Royal British Legion and a prohibition on loading/unloading in the High St are expected.
- (v) Miss Withers has agreed to design a Knowle Society float for the Festival and Geof Thompstone has offered a sheltered facility to build it in. A float co-ordinator is still required.

### **Unitary Development Plan**

- (i) Ken Richards reminded members that the Knowle Society had set out three basic requirements in the UDP for Knowle, namely:-

- Retention of shopping facilities
- Retention of green gaps around Knowle
- Desirability of a sports facility in Knowle.

He anticipated much more activity on the UDP front in 2000.

## **Meetings and Social**

- (i) Members were invited to suggest speakers and topics for meetings.
- (ii) Members were reminded that General Meetings in 2000 would be on Mondays.

## **Millennium Sign**

- (i) It was reported that a sign maker had been identified and planning is in progress.

Cllr Blake complimented the Knowle Society on its work and the efficient dispatch of its business with the SMBC.