

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON
3RD SEPTEMBER 1996

PRESENT: Graham Parkes (Chair), Eileen Bateman (Treasurer), Robin Lansley (Secretary), Joe Kollar (Vice-Chair), Jack Armitage (Warden) and 12 members.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Yvonne Parkes

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The minutes of the last meeting were signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING: The Community Centre had won 1st prize in the Hythe in Bloom competition. Very pleased as we had been without a gardener for 7 weeks. Now rectified.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer reported on the Association finances. £769.10p in the current account. Special Asset paying 4.7% £45594.95 Maximer Bonus paying 3.75% £30534.36 paying 4.7% £45594.95 Discussion will take place in the Executive meeting to consider changing to a Bonus 120 account paying 5.85%.

NEW BUILDING: Little progress had been made in raising funds for the new building. Application had been made to the County and District Councils. The most that could be hoped for was £50000 from County and £25000 from District but funds were very tight and realistically 1998 was the earliest we could hope to begin building if funds became available. Application to the Lottery was imminent. It was hoped that the Allotment Charity would look favourably on any request for funds. Comment was made that 30 groups and over 600 members used the centre and there was incredulity that the Allotment Charity would not support us. Concern was expressed that there were too many other organisations including 3 Church schemes seeking Charity funds. It was suggested that the Allotment Charity probably could allocate £250000 amongst all the applicants in one year. Concern was expressed that it was impossible to know which organisations had benefitted and indeed who the trustees were. Members suggested that the Charity had a very poor P.R. image! If and when money is forthcoming a Design and Build contract will be produced.

GROUP ISSUES: 1. Session times were questioned. They are -1. 10 a.m. - 1.00p.m. 2. 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. 3. 7p.m. - 10 p.m. Charges pro rata would be made outside these times.

2. Tables -24 square and 10 red were available. Jack would arrange the furniture providing groups notified him of their requirement and any changes to a normal pattern.

3. Thanks were expressed to the other groups who had supported the Spiritualists Fair.

A.U.B. 1. QUIZ night arranged for Thursday October 17th teams of 4.

2. End of November - Monopoly competition

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 3rd December 1996

Meeting closed 8.45 p.m.