

Minutes of the inaugural meeting of the proposed organization of a body interested in the local history of the suburb of Oatley, held at the Oatley Library on Friday, 21st July, 1995.

The meeting opened at 10.40 a.m.

Chairman: Russell Gibbs.

Present: 25 persons. (For details see appendix "A")

After opening the meeting Russell Gibbs thanked those present for attending and those who had assisted in arranging the meeting.

Apologies: There were many apologies - The names of some were read. (See Appendix "B")

The Chairman then referred to the following points:

- (a) Kogarah Council were giving support to the scheme and would accept responsibility for some of the expenses, such as printing.
- (b) The meeting had to decide whether such an organization was wanted and whether the Oatley heritage should be preserved.
- (c) Any photographs of interest could be taken to the Library.
- (d) Membership was not restricted.
- (e) It should not be political, nor should it be expected to take sides regarding debatable conflicts with the Council.
- (f) The idea was to gather information, enjoy the past and let our children enjoy the future.
- (g) One question had previously been asked - Did Oatley ever have a theatre. Such questions could be directed to George Kendall.
- (h) The Library was available for future meetings.
- (i) There is a natural environment and it is hoped to keep it.
- (j) The first business was to elect a President, Vice President, Secretary and a Committee. It was not necessary to have a Treasurer for the moment. After this, the aims of the organization should be set out.

There was much discussion on high-rise buildings and the preservation of old buildings, and whether the election of officers should first be decided or whether the aims should take precedence.

No President, Vice-president or Secretary were elected.

Joyce Cowell offered to assist on the Committee providing it was non-political, did not fight against Council decisions and that the meetings were held during the day and not at night. Others who joined the Committee are: Russell Gibbs, Helen Ong, George Kendall, Alec Leach and Greg Williams. ~~JOAN GILLIS~~ JOAN GILLIS

The Committee will meet on Wednesday, 27th September, 1995.

The meeting closed at 12 noon and a cup of tea/coffee (and biscuit) was served.