

Some Notes on the Waterloo Seafront Gardens

Many people will know that Marine, Adelaide and Crescent Gardens and Beach Lawn were originally greens. What is less well known is what the greens and the adjacent areas looked like before the gardens were laid out. Fortunately, there are a few sources available that supply some information on the matter.

The best I have seen are three aerial photographs taken by John Samuel Dove, thought to have been taken in 1913 or 1914. Two of them are easterly views. One of these is of Marine Terrace and the other is of Adelaide Terrace and Beach Lawn. Both photographs show the greens in front of the houses there. Unfortunately, the one of Marine Terrace is not too clear and does not show the whole of the green. What is noticeable is the narrowness of much of the road fronting the houses there. The southern part of it is very narrow indeed. On the green itself I note there is, towards the shore side, a row of garden seats. They appear to be on a rough footpath. The other photograph shows Adelaide Terrace and Beach Lawn roads and their greens with a covering of what appears to be sand. The green in front of Beach Lawn looks to have a heavy covering of it. Both Adelaide Terrace and Beach Lawn look to have pavements to their fronts. Marine Terrace had none. The greens here appear to be enclosed by what I take to be railings, wooden fencing and brick walls. I note there is a pole standing in the green fronting Adelaide Terrace. The third photograph, giving a northerly view of all four greens, shows the whole of the Marine Terrace and the Crescent Terrace greens (1).

A good deal nearer in time to the period when the greens began to be laid out is the 1925 Ordnance Survey map. It reveals no major changes. It shows the outlines of the four greens quite clearly. Those fronting Marine Terrace and Marine Crescent are very much larger than those fronting Adelaide Terrace and Beach Lawn. The road fronting Marine Terrace is still narrow and there still appears to be no pavement there. Marine Crescent, however, has one. No pavements appear on the shore side of any of these roads. There are pavements on the short stretches of Blucher and Wellington Streets and South and St. George's Roads that lead down to the shore. Indeed the map indicates one across Marine Terrace Green towards its shore side which is perhaps the rough footpath mentioned above with the garden seats thereon (2).

Moving on to 1931, there are two interesting photographs from June of that year that show in more detail the narrow road fronting Marine Terrace. Indeed, the word road is inappropriate. In these photographs the road is in part at least clearly more of a footpath. The northern end has a row of bollards across its narrow entrance from South Road. The southern entrance is even narrower. These photographs also show that the green there was bounded by brick walls at its northern and southern sides and railings to the eastern side. The pavements leading down to the beach mentioned above are also shown more clearly. Here they are paved up to the greens but beyond look to be covered in asphalt or something similar (3). One assumes that the other pavements leading down to the beach were of a similar construction?

Some further information on the greens and adjacent areas will be learnt further on in these notes. However, an article, entitled 'Waterloo's Disgraceful Seafront', in the Waterloo & Crosby Herald of 19th April, 1930, is worth quoting in full as, apart from its description of the greens at that time, it places them in a broader context. It said 'The

much-debated question of the Waterloo front has again sprung into the limelight in recent weeks, and the matter is apparently being taken up very seriously by many residents in the district. As many of our letters state in our correspondence column, the present condition of the Waterloo front are (*sic*) nothing less than disgraceful, and now that the general public have revealed their attitude towards the matter it is to be hoped that the owners of the property and the local Council will come to some amicable arrangement on the question. It has long been realised that improvements along the Waterloo front would be an added advantage to the popularity and attractiveness of our district as the present aspect even when in excellent repair gives but a wild and dismal picture. Now many parts of the greens facing the houses are in a bad state. Parts of the boundary wall requires rebuilding, the railings renewing, to say nothing of the so-called turf, repairs that will necessitate considerable expense. To give our Council their due, they have been very anxious to improve the appearance of Waterloo's sea front for a considerable time now, but all their negotiations with the various owners have eventually fallen through. Apparently they have always been met with the sternest opposition from some of the owners. After the numerous improvements in the locality cannot these owners be prevailed upon to try and meet the Council in this matter? What is to stop them handing these greens over to the Waterloo Council on the condition that the latter set it (*sic*) out as gardens, etc. and make the place look more worthy of Waterloo? At all events, it is high time something was done to improve the site. It is naturally the first place visitors to the district make for, and they are met with such an ugly foreground. Such an arrangement as the one suggested would not be any loss to the owners, but, on the contrary, such improvements should tend to increase the value of the adjoining property. A pleasant surprise, and one that fills us with hope for the future, was forthcoming on Wednesday evening, when it was announced by the Waterloo Council that they had set up a new committee to consider this urgent matter. It is to be called the 'Greens and Seafront Committee,' and is under the able chairmanship of Councillor W. Hayes. It is hoped, therefore, that the Council's determination to do their best to effect this needed improvements (*sic*) will meet with the desired result in the near future' (4).

The newspaper subsequently reported that, on Friday 30th May, 1930, Councillor Hayes, together with representatives from the Council, met some of the owners of the properties on Marine Terrace at Waterloo Town Hall. This meeting was reported to the Council by Councillor Hayes at its meeting on the following Wednesday evening. He informed them that 'They kindly invited me to take the chair. The meeting was very cordial indeed. The subject under discussion was explained and very fully considered and discussed from every point of view. The plans for a proposed laying out were brought before them and generally speaking found acceptance, and I have great pleasure in announcing that the necessary majority was obtained to proceed in the usual way, and the next step will be another meeting in about a month's time to obtain a confirmatory resolution' (5).

The reader will perhaps have noted that Councillor Hayes and his colleagues were meeting with people from Marine Terrace only and not with people from Marine Crescent, Adelaide Terrace or Beach Lawn (6).

The confirmatory resolution was obtained on Friday 11th July, 1930. The resolution was 'That this meeting of the owners and occupiers of the following houses fronting or

abutting on Marine Terrace Green, Waterloo, in the County of Lancaster, namely, Nos. 1 to 15 (inclusive), Marine Terrace, and Nos. 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 Bath-street, duly convened, in accordance with the provisions of the Open Spaces Act, 1906, do hereby consent, pursuant to Sections 5 and 8 of the said Act, to the conveyance by the owner or owners of the said green of her, his, or their estate and interest therein to the Urban District Council of Waterloo-with-Seaforth in trust for the enjoyment of the public' (7). The conveyance of the green to the Council appears to have taken place November or possibly early December, 1930 (8).

Application was made to the Unemployment Grants Committee for financial assistance with the laying out of Marine Garden (9). This government body, at this time supervised by the Ministry of Health, had been established a decade earlier and offered financial assistance to local authorities and other bodies to put towards the cost of local public work schemes in their areas. In fact, the Council were seeking a loan to cover the cost of the work. Before deciding to give financial assistance the Ministry informed the Council that it wanted 'a local inquiry to be held by an Inspector' into the application made (10).

The inquiry was duly held at Waterloo Town Hall on 24th February, 1931. There was no opposition to the scheme at the inquiry. The Council's solicitor, Mr. L. S. Cleaver, putting forward the Council's view said 'The scheme under consideration relates to the lay-out of Marine Terrace Green and the improvement of the contiguous roads. The green and the roadway between the green and the houses have recently been acquired by the Council with the object of improving the sea front and the amenities of the district generally. Such acquisition is, it is hoped, the first step in a more comprehensive scheme of improvement of the sea front between St. George's-road and Harbord-road and ultimately there would be a continuous promenade. The acquisition of this and the other greens would no doubt have been accomplished many years ago but for legal difficulties connected with the title to the greens. Dealing with the Marine Terrace Green. The legal estate in the green and roadway was vested in trustees subject to the right of owners of houses fronting the green to a right of perambulation. So far back as 1879 (*a guess, cannot read*) there were negotiations for the transfer of the green to the Council's predecessors, and since then there have periodically been similar negotiations - but, partly by reason of legal technicalities, partly from financial consideration, but principally by reason of the difficulty in obtaining unanimity on the part of the occupiers and owners of the houses, such negotiations failed. During the past two years, however, negotiations were, at the instance of the occupiers, re-opened and ultimately meetings were convened under the Open Spaces Act, 1906, the necessary resolutions passed, and subsequently the legal personal representative of the last surviving trustee conveyed the legal estate in the green to the Council. The Council's original intentions were to make some preliminary improvements to the green, and to gradually carry out the full improvement. The roadway was to be improved at a later date. However, in July of last year a conference of Local Authorities was addressed by the Lord Privy Seal on the subject of the provision of work for the unemployed and the desirability (*a guess, cannot read*) of Local Authorities putting forward schemes of a type which would provide work for the unemployed. Accordingly amongst other schemes which the Council put forward were particulars of a scheme for the acceleration of the Marine Terrace Green improvements. It is a scheme

which would not have been brought forward, save in the barest outline, for a number of years. The owners and occupiers have been unable to keep the green in order in recent years owing to the increasing use by the public and it has been an eyesore and a reproach through picnic parties leaving litter, etc'.

The Council's Surveyor, Mr. J. R. Fothergill, supplied the inquiry with further details of its scheme saying that 'The estimates for the proposed laying out of Marine-terrace Green as a Marine Garden provides for the extension of the promenade roadway fronting Marine-terrace, the widening of South-road adjoining the green and a concrete roadway on the shore side which is required for the removal of blown sand accumulations and to serve as a lower promenade. This portion of South-road is to be widened from 26ft. to 46ft. 6ins. in order to be in alignment with the upper portion of Bath-street'. Talking of the garden itself he said 'In the centre of the Garden it is proposed to excavate to form a sunk garden and to construct a rockery round the slopes. The garden will be provided with asphalt footpaths and laid out with shrubberies. The general surface of the green will be retained as far as possible. Seats will be provided. It will be entirely enclosed on the shore side and Great George's-road side by the existing brick wall, along the Marine-terrace by a new unclimbable railing. There will be four entrances, all from Marine-terrace. It is estimated that the works will extend over a period of 7½ months and will provide work for an average number of 45 men during that period. It is particularly a suitable scheme for the employment of unskilled labour'.

Councillor Hayes also spoke at the inquiry and was optimistic saying 'I look forward to this being the first step towards the acquisition of the remainder of the greens, for I feel sure that when the owners of houses fronting such greens see the advantages of Council control and Council upkeep of this green, they will be anxious to hand over the other greens to us' (11).

The Council was informed in late April or early May, 1931 that their application for financial assistance had been successful. Councillor Hayes, when announcing this good news to the Council, mentioned that 'It is, of course, accompanied by the usual conditions and special reference has been made to the fact that this being a direct labour scheme the officer of the local labour exchange would call on us regarding the recruiting of labour for the scheme. I may say that the officer has already been in communication with us and I should like to say for the information of the people in the district generally that the labour must be employed from the labour exchange and not through these offices'. He also informed his colleagues that a foreman had already been selected and that a sub-committee had been formed which was able to meet during the daytime to consider matters relating to the scheme (12). Its function was 'to deal with labour, fix up contracts, and watch over the finances' (13).

The Waterloo & Crosby Herald informed its readership that during the first week of work several men were engaged and employed 'in removing the grass sods so that the more important work can be commenced' (14). By late August the green '...while not showing a great many definite results as yet is nevertheless progressing satisfactorily. At present the work has been mainly confined to the cutting-out and making of the new roadway which will connect South-road and Great George's-road. The foundations are now almost completed, and the major portion of the kerbing has been accomplished' (15). The work moved on and by mid-October the newspaper was able to report that further

progress had taken place: 'Not only had the road foundations and the pavement of the new roadway been practically completed, but the actual scheme for the laying-out of the gardens has now assumed quite an encouraging appearance. The undulated ground has lent itself admirably to the water rockery that is now in the process of construction. An artificial waterfall is being made, and, although the scheme is a long way from completion as yet, it shows every prospect of being a distinct success, and if the ultimate result fulfils this promise one doubts if it will be long before the owners and tenants who exercise control over the other greens will only be too anxious to have a similar aspect constructed' (16).

Indeed, negotiations, between the Council and the owners and occupiers of the green adjacent to Adelaide Terrace were shortly to take place. When they commenced I have been unable to ascertain. Certainly, discussions were taking place in late 1931 (17).

By late February, 1932 'The Marine Terrace Green, which was handed over to the Waterloo Council by private owners some time ago, and which is being converted to a public park at the cost of £11,000 (*but see beneath for the actual amount*) is now practically completed and it is expected to be officially opened on April 9th. The Council's promise that they would make good use of the land if the owners agreed to give them control, has been adequately fulfilled, and it is hardly likely that any of the owners and occupiers of the houses in front of the green will reproach themselves when they made this scheme possible (*sic*). With the conclusion of this scheme, visions of a decent front for Waterloo again materialise, and certainly the remaining greens along the front look positively dilapidated in comparison. Encouraged by the apparent success the Council has made of Marine Terrace Green, the owners of Adelaide Terrace frontage have come forward willing to discuss the question of handing the green over to the Council. A meeting is to take place in March, when it is expected that another important step will be taken towards providing Waterloo with a respectable seafront' (18).

The March meeting between 'representatives of the Waterloo Council and owners and occupiers of the frontages on Adelaide-terrace' took place at the Town Hall on the 22nd of that month. A 'resolution agreeing to the transfer of the green to the Council for the purpose of laying out a garden park, was passed by a large majority. The resolution will yet have to be confirmed by another meeting after the lapse of a month, but the general feeling is that the scheme will go through. We understand that providing the Council do obtain possession of the land fronting Adelaide-terrace it is not their intention to make alterations and improvements on a similar scale to the Marine-terrace scheme' (19).

Marine Garden did indeed open on the 9th April. The day was a Saturday and the opening was held in the afternoon. The weather, according to the Waterloo & Crosby Herald, was 'blustery' yet 'hundreds of people thronged the front to witness the opening ceremony'. The 'official party met at the Waterloo Town Hall and proceeded in procession to the shore-end of Great George's-road'. There Councillor H. Y. Bramham presented Councillor S. Chaffers with some scissors in return for a coin. Councillor Chaffers then proceeded to cut the ribbon thus opening the newly built road. The party moved on to the main entrance to the new garden which was situated at the shore-end of South Road. There Councillor Chaffers presented Councillor Hayes with 'a souvenir key and requested him to declare the Marine Garden open to the public'. Councillor Hayes, before opening the garden, made a short speech. His initial remarks were modest: 'It is

with the deepest feelings of gratitude that I accept this invitation to open Marine Garden today'. He went on: 'I think it is a signal honour conferred upon me simply because I happen to be chairman of the committee. I also thank you for this beautiful souvenir key which will be a happy memento of a most interesting event in our district'. Continuing his speech he referred to the difficulties of bringing the scheme to fruition and mentioned some figures whose work had been in the background: 'There were legal difficulties, there were local difficulties, and in regard to the former we have to acknowledge the skill, patience and perseverance of our Solicitor, Mr. Cleaver, who overcame every obstacle. The Town Clerk (George Wilkinson) with his wide knowledge of local affairs, also rendered conspicuous service'. He also spoke of the financial assistance that had been received from the government and how the poor footpath fronting Marine Terrace and the green, 'no man's land' as he described it, had now been replaced with better things. His closing words, referring to the green, were 'Is it too much to ask that it be cared for and appreciated? And may not all of us hope it is the forerunner of further progress along this front whereby the amenities can be improved and - maybe - increased prosperity brought to the town'. On opening the gates Councillor Hayes said 'With great pleasure I declare this Marine Garden open. May it give health, comfort and pleasure to all who enter'.

The thinking behind the lay-out of the garden was 'to design an informal garden which, by developing the undulating characteristics of the site should afford a pleasing contrast to the general unrelieved flatness of this portion of the coastline, while presenting the maximum possible garden amenities. For this purpose the south and west facing banks of the former 'Green' have been built up and, by the addition of 277 tons of weather and water-worn limestone rock brought from the slopes of Ingleborough, worked into a reproduction of typical rock landscape, giving a representation of the weather-worn cliff formation of outcrops of water-bearing strata (*sic*). With this basis of conception the central design features a spring rising in a pine-girt knoll and cascading over the cliff face into a pool beneath, whence it meanders into a rock-encircled pond of the level below. At a further point along the cliff a second eddying spring suggests an overflow feeding two other pools. Several thousand tons of sand have been removed to form a bayed front in the cliff face, where two flights of rough-squared steps give approach to the top of the cliff' (20).

A statement of costs was prepared which showed the cost of the work done, both to the green and adjacent roads, to have totalled £11,392. This was just inside the expected cost which was £11,424 (21). The work commenced on 15th May, 1931 and was completed on 27th February, 1932 (22).

The second meeting mentioned above between the Adelaide Terrace frontagers and the Council was held on Thursday, 12th May, 1932. A lengthy piece in the Local Jottings section of the Waterloo & Crosby Herald's edition on the following Saturday detailed the matter: 'Following the meeting of owners and frontagers held at the Town Hall on Thursday, it was announced that the Waterloo Council had acquired the ownership of the Adelaide-terrace Green - a fact which marks another great stride in the progress of the scheme to make Waterloo's seafront a real public amenity. The meeting confirmed a resolution which was passed a month ago under the Open Spaces Act of 1906, for the transfer to the Council of the legal estate of the Green under terms and conditions previously agreed to, and so enables the Council to carry on with the scheme of

improvements, begun so successfully with the Marine-terrace Green. The credit for this step forward is undoubtedly largely due to the indefatigable work of Councillor Walter Hayes, the Chairman of the Greens and Seafront Committee, whose wisely-directed efforts in regard to the Marine-terrace Green have already provided the public with a source of enjoyment which will now be added to still further'. Most interestingly, the newspaper then gave the conditions agreed to by both parties of the transfer, as follows: '(a) The whole of the expense involved be borne by the Urban District Council of Waterloo-with-Seaforth, who would also bear the whole cost of improvements to the Green. (b) The Council rebuild the boundary walls and fences, construct walks and recondition the Green and/or other improvements as the Council may think fit; maintain the said walls, fences and the Green, and establish a system of control and inspection over the Green similar to the public parks in the district. (c) Keep the Green open and unbuilt upon and not erect thereon any buildings, shelters or lavatories for public or private use but so that this shall not prevent the provision of such means as the Council may think necessary to protect the Green and gardens therein from stormy weather or shelters which shall not obstruct the view from the ground floor windows of the said houses. (d) Not permit upon the Green the playing of any games or any contests, athletic or otherwise, or any public meetings or any bands or the playing of music. (e) Not erect any shelters, buildings or lavatories on the approach roads in Blucher-street or Wellington-street adjoining the Green in so far as the Council could consent thereto' (23).

These conditions did not pass without comment. At a Council meeting Councillor H. Y. Bramham was quite scathing about them to his fellow Councillors. He thought that too much ground had been conceded to the frontagers and that too much was being spent on the project (24). His objections were commented on in the local press: 'Since the eye-opener given to the district by Councillor H. Y. Bramham last week over the Adelaide-terrace improvements in connection with the Waterloo seafront there has been considerable discussion on the question. The general feeling seems to be that the public do not expect the Council to rush local ratepayers for an elaborate scheme of reconstruction. It is realised, however, that they cannot make full use of the admirable opportunities presented on the seafront owing to the restrictions imposed in the conditions of transfer. The Council's attitude in accepting anything, if only to improve to some extent the present dilapidated condition of Adelaide-terrace green, is to be commended, but if they are to be more or less dictated to by the present frontagers then the Council is not justified in putting forward any elaborate scheme to please but a minute percentage of the local ratepayers' (25).

As was the case with Marine Terrace green, the Council sought financial assistance from the government with the cost of laying out of the green fronting Adelaide Terrace as a garden. In May or June, 1932, they sent a deputation to the Ministry of Health in London. In reporting the matter to the Council 'the Clerk said that a scheme for work on the newly acquired Adelaide-terrace Green had been submitted by a deputation from the Council to the Ministry of Health. The deputation had gone with the idea of getting to know the policy of the government in regard to the provision of work schemes to relieve unemployment, and the policy of the Ministry as regards the sanctioning of capital expenditure on works of any kind. In regard to the provision of work schemes to relieve unemployment, the deputation was told that those schemes were now in abeyance and no

scheme had been sanctioned since the early part of January. They had no hope to give in regard to any employment grants. It was also the policy of the government to scrutinise very closely any application for loans on works of any kind. The acid test which the Ministry applied was 'are these schemes urgent and necessary.' If not, the Ministry had decided not to sanction any loans. It was pointed out to the Ministry that in regard to the Adelaide Terrace Green that it was urgent and necessary that the Council should enclose their own property. The Council was told that it was at liberty to make an application on those lines. The Surveyor submitted a revised scheme and estimate for urgent and necessary work in connection with Adelaide-terrace which concerned the building of walls on two sides and the repairing of the walls on the Blucher-street and Wellington-street sides. The scheme was considered by the Greens and Seafront Committee and approved and it was resolved to make an application to the Ministry for sanction to borrow the sum of £1,300 for work and incidental expenses' (26). Regrettably, the application for assistance was rejected by the Ministry. One of their staff, a Mr. Legge, wrote to the Council on 27th July, 1932: 'Sir, - I am directed by the Minister of Health to refer to your letter of 1st instant (*presumably this is the date of the above mentioned application for assistance*), with regard to the proposed improvement of the above mentioned Green (*that is, Adelaide Terrace Green*) and to state that, after giving this matter careful consideration, he is unable to take the view that the application is for urgent and necessary work, such as he would feel justified in sanctioning at the present time' (27).

The Council, undaunted and possibly not wholly surprised to receive the above response from the Ministry, enlisted in their cause the services of the local Member of Parliament who, at that time, was Captain Malcolm Bullock. Exactly what role Captain Bullock played I have not found out. However, he was certainly in communication with the Ministry over the matter, surely lobbying on behalf of the Council. Further assistance, unsought, but perversely useful, was provided by some very windy weather at the time which made quite a mess of the front, no doubt covering it with sand. The aftermath was photographed and the photographs sent by the Council to the Ministry and may have helped Waterloo's case. In short, in November or early December, 1932 the Ministry saw fit to reverse its decision (28).

Quite when the work on Adelaide Garden commenced I have been unable to learn. However, in March, 1934 the wall on the shore side had been completed and the Council 'decided to proceed with the railings and gates in addition to work on the ground itself and the making of the road' (29). Councillor Hayes commented on the progress being made, or rather lack of it, at a Council meeting on 6th June, 1934 saying 'The slow progress at the Adelaide Garden was not due to any desire of the Council to delay laying out, but it was perhaps not as well known as it should be that the money for that scheme was being provided out of revenue. It was necessary to wait a fairly considerable time until the Council knew what it had available for 1934-5. Some members of the public had mentioned that the work was going on rather slowly, but now is not the time to do the planting, and the work as far as the Council was concerned was going on quite fast enough. It would be brought to a head in due course' (30). The £1,300 that was borrowed was used towards the building and repairing of walls. The balance of money being spent to lay out the green as a garden was being funded from the Council's revenue income; in

other words, the rates (31). A little later, in early August of 1934, the Waterloo & Crosby Herald informed its readership that 'The Waterloo Council has accepted a tender for the erection of a shelter, steps and walls in the Adelaide Garden. Also for the decoration of this Garden there is to be a granite baluster from the old Waterloo Bridge, London, which is now being demolished' (32).

In late April, 1934, the newspaper reported that 'A further indication of progress is the news that the owners of Marine Crescent have consented to the transfer to the Council of the green in front of their property on the sea front. The negotiations leading to this happy result have been undertaken by Councillor Walter Hayes and Mr. Gill Hodgson, representing the owners. The Council will shortly be considering the layout of the new green' (33). The owners may have consented to the transfer but it was not actually finalised until early 1935 (possibly February or very early March) (34). At a Council meeting on 6th March, 1935 Councillor Hayes told his colleagues a little of previous negotiations to acquire all four of the greens: 'In 1919 and 1920 a serious attempt was made by the Council to acquire the whole of the sea frontage and the method then adopted was to take it in a batch. Unfortunately that did not succeed and nothing more was done for a considerable number of years. After a lapse of time by a very happy thought on the part of our solicitor it was suggested that we should proceed in stages and the Council took the solicitor's advice and commenced with the Marine Gardens. Subsequently, we acquired the third section in the line, namely Adelaide Terrace, and the minutes tonight record that we are now in possession of the Marine Crescent Green'. The acquisition by the Council of Marine Crescent Green went back as far as 1932 when conversations took place between Councillor Hayes and an owner there, quite probably the above mentioned Mr. Hodgson. As a result of them the owners set up a committee to deal with the Council (35).

Adelaide Garden was opened on Saturday 30th March, 1935 and was reported upon by the Waterloo & Crosby Herald: 'The opening of the Adelaide-terrace garden, now a spacious and picturesque asset to the local seafront, was a memorable event for the district last Saturday when in the presence of councillors, frontagers and a large concourse of the general public the garden was officially declared opened by the chairman of the Waterloo-with-Seaforth U.D.C., Councillor H. Y. Bramham, J. P.'. It continued: 'After the opening the party proceeded round the garden and a tablet commemorating this occasion was unveiled by Mrs. C. Y. C. Dawbarn, of Adelaide-terrace' (36). A week earlier the newspaper had given its readership a preview of the new garden: 'Originally the site was nothing more than a series of sand hills which were quite open to the shore and consequently with every high wind more sand accumulated. A new brick wall has been built along the shore and the old side walls in Wellington-street and Blucher-street have been repaired and pointed, and new ornamental iron railings erected along Adelaide-terrace, the total area of garden thus enclosed being about 2¼ acres. The new wall on the shore side arrests the large amount of sand which is blown against it in times of high wind storms; a good proportion of this sand used to be carried into Adelaide-terrace and adjacent roads, thus a considerable nuisance has been done away with. The Council have laid a sleeper track alongside this wall on the shore side to facilitate the quick removal of the sand. The main entrance is placed midway in Adelaide-terrace, between Wellington-street and Blucher-street, and leads to the centre feature of

the garden having a circular bed for bedding plants in the centre and a circular path of rustic flagging all round in which are placed circular seats (*sic*) at intervals round its circumference. Facing the entrance on a stone base is placed a bronze tablet commemorating the dedicating of the land to the Council by the owners of the houses in Adelaide-terrace and also that the garden was declared open to the public on March 30th, 1935, by Councillor H. Y. Bramham, J. P., the Chairman of the Council. On the shore side of centre circular bed (*sic*) is placed the baluster which was procured from London when the Waterloo Bridge was being demolished last year. It was thought at the time that it would be very appropriate if one of these balusters from the side of the bridge was obtained as a memento of the first Waterloo bridge which was opened in the presence of the Duke of Wellington. The baluster is Aberdeen granite and is hand pitched. A bronze directional plate is fixed on the top of the baluster giving the points of the compass and the direction and distance to places which can be seen and also to places of interest further afield'.

The article also informed its readers that 'The new brick wall enclosing the garden on the shore side and the steps, shelter and seat recesses in the embankment were all carried out by contract, the contractor being Mr. W. H. Taylor, of Great Crosby. All the rest of the work was carried out by direct labour' (37).

The vicar of Christ Church at the time, the Reverend Frank Stone, wrote an interesting letter to the local paper on the subject of the seafront gardens which it published in its 27th April, 1935 edition. The gist of it was his suggestion that the then new Adelaide Garden and the then proposed Crescent Garden be joined by closing the short stretch of Wellington Street that separated them. He wrote that 'The advantage would be that the community would possess a garden which would give dignity and space to the seafront, which would afford a continuous walk for those who saunter therein, thus avoiding the necessity for going out into the street in order to continue one's walk, while the lay-out of the new garden could be enormously improved by the new spaciousness afforded. Waterloo would have in such a continuous garden a front which would be a real attraction to visitors, and the community would benefit greatly by the possession of such an amenity. The existing wall on the south side of Adelaide Garden could be retained as it is, being merely pierced by two wide apertures to allow the paths to be continuous with those in the new Crescent Garden. If seats were then to be placed along the south side of that wall, a veritable sun-trap would be created, and shelter afforded from the prevailing winds'. Further, he hints that, were it not for the lavatory accommodation at the shore end of South Road, the road there could also be closed so that Marine Garden could be linked with the proposed Crescent Garden. The suggestion was given some consideration by the Council but was rejected by them (38).

At a Council meeting on 2nd October, 1935 Councillor Hayes was able to tell his fellow Councillors that the Clerk to the Council, the Surveyor, and himself had met with some of the owners of the green fronting Beach Lawn the previous Thursday evening. It would appear some progress in the matter of the Council taking over the green there was made as he also told them that he would be asking the Greens and Seafront Committee 'to consider and approve suggested conditions which our Solicitor will have drawn up under or by which Beach Lawn may or should be acquired'. Furthermore, he told them that the owners present at the meeting had 'by resolution, unanimously agreed to meet myself and

the officials when called upon and are prepared to give serious consideration to whatever we put before them' (39). However, a unanimous agreement for the transfer of the green to the Council could not be reached amongst the owners. In particular, the owners of numbers 14 to 17 (these are the four properties adjacent to Harbord Road) were unable to accept the Council's proposals. The Council was forced therefore to 'amend their original proposal for the whole of the seafront, which will now terminate at the entrance to the footpath leading to Harbord-road'. The owners of numbers 1 to 13 passed the first statutory resolution to transfer their interests in their green to the Council on the evening of 12th February, 1936 at the Town Hall (40).

By late 1936 work on the laying out of Crescent Garden was moving towards completion. A tender to 'supply and supervise the planting of plants, shrubs and trees' from Messrs. Bees, Ltd. was accepted by the Council at a cost of '£234. 18s. 9d., plus wages of the foreman at 2s. 6d. per hour'. The Council were hopeful of being able to have a colourful display to mark the ascension to the throne of King George VI whose Coronation was to be in the following May (41).

During the laying out of Crescent Garden the workmen made some intriguing discoveries. In particular, a number of earthenware pipes and tree trunks, that had been bored through lengthways, were unearthed. They were thought by Mr. C. L. Lamb, a local historian, to possibly be early C19th and used for the conveyance of either fresh or waste water (42).

It is clear that, although the Council had announced the amended scheme for the green fronting Beach Lawn, they were still in negotiation with some of the owners there well into early 1937, presumably seeking to reach a unanimous agreement, thereby enabling a slightly larger lay-out to be undertaken. However, agreement apparently could not be reached and at its monthly Council meeting on 3rd March, 1937 Councillor Hayes 'referred to the negative result of his final effort to secure the co-operation of certain frontagers to enable a complete scheme of lay-out along the seafront from Blucher-street to Harbord-road to be carried out'. The Council therefore decided 'to proceed with a scheme omitting the frontages of Nos. 14 to 17 Beach Lawn' (43).

On the 10th April, 1937 Crescent Garden was officially opened. It appears to have been quite a grand event by local standards as 'one of the largest representative gatherings seen in Waterloo for a considerable time congregated on the sea front last Saturday to witness the opening by the Chairman of the Council, Councillor W. Smithson' (44). The event took place in the afternoon and the weather was fine. An initial speech was made by Councillor Hayes and it is worth quoting for the historical information it contains. He said 'Today we complete the third stage of our sea front development. Now this particular portion, Marine-crescent, differs from all the others - first in point of size, it being twice the size of Adelaide Garden, and four times the size of Beach Lawn as it exists at present. The second point is that the ownership of this particular garden differs from any of the others. Now it may be that owing to two difficulties the features of this garden is figured more in the local history of Waterloo than any other on the front (*sic*). In 1893 the green was the property of the frontagers and had to be looked after and controlled by the frontagemen; but this wasn't the case. In 1898 a prominent frontageman came to the rescue, took matters in his own hands and spent a considerable amount of money and time in fencing, protection and such like. Not many years ago this green was the grazing

ground of a number of cows, and in 1914 the frontagers and the Council decided that the ground should no longer be for cows; but some of the frontagers were not very pleased with this change. Now, again, in 1908 a very prominent gentleman of Waterloo suggested to the local Council that there should be a modern promenade from Great George's-road to Harbord-road. However, that scheme came to naught. In 1919-20 and 1921 a very serious and prolonged effort was made to get possession of the green. That also came to naught. It was a question of making the front attractive from the vast quantities of sand that always collected on the green (*sic*). In dealing with this section, however, we have to be thankful that we were fortunate enough in securing the goodwill and services of one of the frontagers, Mr. Gil Hodgson. Mr. Hodgson devoted a considerable amount of time and skill in trying to get the whole of the frontagers in one mind. I would like to remind you that it was necessary in connexion with this scheme to get the consent of the whole of the body concerned. This was not a simple matter, as was the case in the other garden (*sic*). He had no light task, but he was successful, and he deserves the thanks, not only of the Council, but of the public of the district'. Councillor Hayes gave thanks to the frontagers and the public for surrendering their rights, and to Messrs. Cleaver, Wilkinson and Fothergill, for their work. He then invited Councillor Smithson to open the main Crescent Garden gate. To do so Mr. Wilkinson, 'on behalf of the Chief Officers connected with the scheme', then presented Councillor Smithson with a souvenir key. Before proceeding to open the gate, Councillor Smithson himself then made a speech. He said 'We hope that in the time to come, in this garden as well as in the others, you will be able to rest in quietness and enjoy the beauty of the gardens as they increase and at the same time enjoy the health giving facilities of our wide, open sea front. Councillor Hayes has given you a very lucid explanation of the history of the scheme and I do not think it is my place to dwell on that, but I would like with all sincerity to express to the frontagers and occupiers our own Council's thanks as well as that of the general public. To the community I would like to express our high praise of the general good conduct of the public in these gardens, and especially I would like to mention the behaviour of the children of the district who use these gardens; and it is up to you to see that the gardens are so kept in good order, as you must always remember them as your own property. I have great pleasure in opening this garden and formally declare the Crescent Green (*sic*) open for the use of the public for all time'.

The party then proceeded to inspect the garden. At the sunken garden Miss. Florence Rollo unveiled a bronze tablet commemorating both the transfer of the site by the owners to the Council and the opening by Councillor Smithson of the garden. One of the frontagers, Mrs. William H. Caldwell, then unveiled, by removing a Union Jack, a bronze figure that stood on an islet in the centre of the pool that had been constructed in the sunken garden.

Afternoon tea was served at the Town Hall for the party. More speeches were made, notably by the Chairmen of the Crosby and the Litherland Urban District Councils who, together with their spouses, had been invited to the opening ceremony. Councillor Bramham also spoke and made a presentation to Councillor Hayes. Some of his words, being those in connection with Councillor Hayes, are of interest as they show the high regard in which he was held by his Council colleagues: 'In 1930, Mr. Wilkinson was not satisfied with the progress that was being made on the sea-front and he suggested that a

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new standing committee should be set up and that the chairman of that committee should have extraordinary power. Mr. Wilkinson said that in his opinion Councillor W. Hayes was most fitted to be chairman of that committee, having both influence and tact. We were very pleased with the suggestion and adopted it. From time to time Councillor Hayes told us of his difficulties. They seemed insurmountable. The way Councillor Hayes has conquered those difficulties has been something marvellous. It is astonishing to think that in seven years Mr. Hayes has got the whole of the frontagers into line. We are not building a brick wall at the end of Beach Lawn. That seems too permanent, so we have erected a sleeper-fence which will give way much quicker than a wall. We feel that Councillor Hayes is going to overcome those difficulties at Beach Lawn. I came to the district about 9 months before the Council was formed and it is agreed that at no time during the period of the Council has the Council thought fit to make a presentation to one of its members. I have great pleasure in asking Councillor Hayes to accept on behalf of all the members of the Council this present, which in a small way shows our admiration for him'. Councillor Hayes responded: 'I appreciate the kind thought and it is indeed a genuine surprise to find that the members themselves have considered it desirable that one of their own colleagues should be singled out to have a presentation made to him, this not having been done before in the history of the Council. It seems to me not only appreciation but real kindness of heart. Reference has been made to my appointment as chairman of the new committee established about 6 years ago. It is a fact that the Greens and Seafront Committee has been an outstanding success but I am not going to say that all the success is due to myself as its chairman, but I have been well backed up by the Council. This gift will not make me vain or proud but will encourage me to do what I can in connexion with the seafronts. In regard to the frontagers, there have been real difficulties to overcome. The land these people gave over to the Council was of no financial benefit to themselves but I do not blame them for saying 'That land is ours'. Although these difficulties cropped up, it was pleasing to meet people living along the front and to hear their points of view. This has given me a personal interest in the past history of Waterloo, going back much farther than the history I have acquired through living here. I have no complaints to make against the frontagers. In many instances there was goodwill and co-operation and a desire to assist me as far as they could in the good work' (45).

Writing in the Waterloo & Crosby Herald, Mr. Fothergill, the Council's surveyor, said that the 'basic idea has been to create a garden in harmony with its neighbours yet with an individuality of its own breaking right away from the often crude geometrical effects of the stereotyped 'formal' sea-gront (*sic*) garden of tradition'. He thought the 'outstanding feature of the garden is a sheltered sunken water garden in which a bronze fountain figure crowns a rocky islet set out with water plants'. Here 'for the approaching Coronation the Superintendent Gardener has arranged a colourful and pleasing display of red and white tulips and forget-me-nots'. The sunken garden was surrounded by 'multi-coloured natural stone from Derbyshire quarries'. Further, at the part of the garden 'adjoining Wellington-street' a 'feature of especial interest' was a 'slab garden - a multum in parvo - which invariably delights garden enthusiasts'. He went on to tell the readers that 'Three shelters of multi-coloured rustic brick with teak beams supporting a green concrete roof adjoining the shore wall have been constructed with additional side extensions. The seats within the

shelters and the forty-four within the garden are constructed of battleship teak. In the actual construction of the garden several thousand tons of soil and clay and nearly two hundred tons of manure were found necessary, as the garden was being built up from a sand waste. In addition to the regular staff employed on road and footpath works and the labour employed by the contractor in the building of the boundary walls, shelters, etc., employment was given over a period of ten weeks to a hundred and twenty-four extra unskilled men recruited locally from the unemployed of this district. With a few minor exceptions, boundary walls, etc., the work has been carried out by direct labour, the scheme in its entirety being designed, supervised and carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor and his staff' (46).

The creation of Crescent Garden cost £10,900. The enclosure of the green and associated costs amounted to £3100. The lay-out itself cost £7,090. The balance expended of £710 went on 'street works' associated with the project. Again the money was borrowed (47).

By early October, 1937 at the latest the owners of 14 to 17 Beach Lawn had transferred their interests in their frontages to the Council and work commenced on laying out the final seafront garden (48). It was opened on 15th April, 1939 by the Mayor of the Borough of Crosby (the Waterloo-with-Seaforth and Crosby U. D. Cs. having by this time amalgamated to form this new borough), Alderman H. Williams. Although the weather was 'cold and dismal' the opening ceremony was 'attended by a large crowd of Council members, frontagers and members of the general public'.

Councillor Hayes commenced the proceedings and made a short speech. In particular, he thanked the owners of the properties along the front for their 'goodwill and public spirit displayed in handing over for the benefit of the district their collective rights and privileges'. He thought it fitting that the Mayor should be performing the opening ceremony, as referring to the four gardens, he had been 'a most consistent and zealous advocate of this long-desired improvement'. Finally, he asked Alderman Williams to open the garden. At this point the Town Clerk, Mr. F. D. Foulkes, presented the Mayor with a golden key which he used to open the gate to Beach Lawn, after which he formally declared the garden open. After inspecting the new garden the party went to St. John's School where tea was served to them and further speeches made (49).

The readers of the Crosby Herald (as the Waterloo & Crosby Herald was now titled) were given a preview of the lay-out of Beach Lawn in the previous week's edition: 'This latest amenity comprises the original privately owned Beach Lawn and four frontaging gardens, together with the reclamation of over one and three-quarter acres of shore which have been enclosed and developed. A new footpath has been added to the carriageway on a 9ft. width strip taken from the Lawn, and carried through to Harbord-road in a 12ft. width, replacing a narrow footway at that end. New iron railings have been supplied to the Lawn, and a new brick wall to enclose the shore portion. The principal idea has been the retention of the Lawn, which gives the garden its name, with the addition and development of interesting features, giving the garden an individuality of its own while harmonising with the frontal gardens already completed. Surrounding shrubberies have been added to the lawn, which now forms the upper garden and a central projecting bay has been created which overlooks both the estuary and the new lower garden, to which access is here given by two flights of circular steps, and also by paths at either end. At the

North end an established shrubbery has been enlarged and beautified and made the apparent source of a stream emerging from a rockery built of Ingleborough limestone. This also serves as a terminating feature to the retaining wall of the upper garden. The stream cascades through pools to a lake with two small islands in the lowest level of the garden, and is controlled by a concealed electrically driven pump which lifts and re-employs the water as a constant stream over the fall. Rockery steps lead from the terrace path to the top of the fall, giving an additional pleasing viewpoint. The path itself continues alongside the rockery and is carried over the stream by a teak footbridge. The new lower garden has been especially designed to develop into an old world rose garden, and the old brick of the retaining wall and the use of stone and brick insertions in the terrace path are especially to further this idea. The terrace runs alongside and parallel with the retaining wall of the old Lawn and has been laid out as an herbaceous massed display above the level of the adjoining pathway. Recessed seats and two shelters have been designedly placed to take full advantage of this feature while affording the enjoyment of all available sun and shelter. A third covered shelter has been made in the wall at the North side adjoining Harbord-road, and a gardeners' tool shed provided adjoining Blucher-street, practically concealed by utilising the variance of level between the gardens' (50).

An important aspect of the creation of the gardens was the work that it made available for Waterloo and Seaforth men during a period of high unemployment. Of a total of £37,000 spent on the gardens, the sum of £14,500 was paid out in wages to local men (51). The vast majority of this money was surely spent in the local shops, thus providing a small boost to the local economy as well as providing some welcome extras for many a family's table. I assume that, whatever the government benefits were in the 1930s for the unemployed, they were modest amounts and the offer of several weeks paid work was eagerly accepted by them. It appears that the Council employed the men for short periods before replacing them with other unemployed men from the Labour Exchange (52).

When first opened, and for many years thereafter, the gardens clearly received much care and attention. They must have been a delight to many residents and visitors to amble around or sit and relax in. No doubt they were a source of local pride to Waterloo people. What a pity then that they have been permitted to gradually decline into the present poor state. However, there are stirrings amongst some Waterloo residents to attempt to have the gardens, as well as Potter's Barn, which has also declined into an equally sorry state, better cared for. I wish them success in their endeavour. Perhaps we can have some pride in them again?

Notes:-

These brief notes are a chronological and, to an extent, a descriptive account of the creation of the Waterloo seafront gardens. It is very far from being even an attempt at a comprehensive account. The political, economic and social background, both national and local, has not been examined. There is much in those areas and others to consider that relate to the creation of the gardens.

For the period when the greens were extant the reader will hopefully benefit from seeing the photographs and map I have commented upon.

Also, these notes are very reliant on the Waterloo & Crosby Herald (later Crosby Herald), there being, as far as I am aware, very few other sources on the subject. The many quotes from that newspaper are as printed; in particular, the occasional waywardness in spelling, meaning and grammar has been retained. Hopefully, there is some original paperwork in private hands that will come to light. In particular, there must be a fair amount of photographic material surviving.

My apologies for having to guess a few items. They are from the Waterloo & Crosby Herald and relate to my having to use a microfilm version of that newspaper to research the subject. Unfortunately, a combination of my poor eyesight and the occasional poor section of microfilm meant a few guesses had to be made. Otherwise, I like to think I have given accurate transcriptions.

No doubt there are some errors? If so, please excuse them and very gently inform me of them.

1. Bolger, P. Postcard Photographers of Liverpool and District, 1900-1939 (Liverpool, 2005), Part 1, pp69 and 70, Part 3, p72. These books are available for consultation at Crosby Local History Library (hereafter CLHL) under reference 942.72 BOL. These notes just mention a few features in the photographs. There is much else of interest on the greens and the adjacent area in them.
2. The Godfrey Edition. Old Ordnance Survey Maps: Waterloo with Seaforth, 1925 (Consett, 2002). This map is available for consultation at CLHL under reference C912.4272. I write with no authority at all on the matter of interpreting OS maps and trust my observations are correct.
3. CLHL. Marine Terrace Green, June 1931 (photo. ref. PK88/1) and Marine Gardens, Waterloo, June 1931 (photo. ref. PK67). These photographs are available for consultation at CLHL under the aforementioned references.
4. Waterloo & Crosby Herald. 19th April, 1930. CLHL. This and all other editions of the Waterloo & Crosby Herald, later the Crosby Herald (hereafter W&CH and CH), used in these notes can be viewed on microfilm at CLHL.
5. W&CH. 7th June, 1930.
6. W&CH. 16th April, 1932.
7. W&CH. 2nd August, 1930.
- 8 and 9. W&CH. 8th December, 1930.
10. W&CH. 7th February, 1931.
11. W&CH. 28th February, 1931. The 'conference of Local Authorities' was convened by Mr. L. D. Holt, the Lord Mayor of Liverpool at the time, and was held at the Town Hall there. Representatives were sent from Great Crosby, Little Crosby, Formby, Litherland and several other local authorities, including Waterloo-with-Seaforth. The Liverpool Echo of 24th July, 1930 contains a report on it. The Lord Privy Seal at the time was Vernon Hartshorn. He had been appointed in 1930 with special responsibility for the government's policy on employment (Oxford Dict. of Nat. Biography, Oxford, 2004). He was clearly therefore in a position to inform local authorities of it. In particular, he said the government were asking local authorities to expedite local schemes. Separately, but no doubt part of the same government policy, the Ministry of Health had at this time issued an appeal to local authorities to speed up relief works (Liverpool Echo of 4th July,

1930). In short, there appears to have been a government initiative to get more schemes underway before the winter commenced. The background was of course the high level of unemployment at this time (Lloyd, T. O. *Empire, Welfare State, Europe: History of the United Kingdom*, Oxford, 2002, chart 2, p525).

12. W&CH. 9th May, 1931.

13. W&CH. 16th April, 1932.

14. W&CH. 16th May, 1931.

15. W&CH. 29th August, 1931.

16. W&CH. 17th October, 1931.

17. W&CH. 5th December, 1931.

18. W&CH. 27th February, 1932.

19. W&CH. 26th March, 1932.

20. W&CH. 16th April, 1932. This article is quite lengthy and contains a lot more information on the opening of Marine Garden and its lay-out.

21. W&CH. 8th October, 1932.

22. W&CH. 9th April, 1932. I do note that there are some seats in Marine Garden that may be the ones installed when it was laid out? The ironwork to their sides has the initials W-w S U D C on them indicating that they surely date from the 1930s or earlier?

23. W&CH. 14th May, 1932.

24. W&CH. 4th June, 1932.

25. W&CH. 11th June, 1932.

26. W&CH. 25th June, 1932. A slightly different sequence of events relating to the funding sought was given by Councillor Hayes in the W&CH of 6th April, 1935.

27. W&CH. 6th August, 1932.

28. W&CH. 10th December, 1932.

29. W&CH. 24th March, 1934.

30. W&CH. 9th June, 1934.

31. W&CH. 6th April, 1935. I have been unable to learn what was the total cost of Adelaide Garden. However, as reported in the W&CH of 22nd February, 1936, Mr. R. T. Golding, Chairman of the Waterloo Ratepayers' Association, estimated it at £6,668.

32. W&CH. 4th August, 1934.

33. W&CH. 28th April, 1934.

34 and 35. W&CH. 9th March, 1935.

36. W&CH. 6th April, 1935.

37. W&CH. 30th March, 1935.

38. W&CH. 27th April, 1935. The Council's rejection of Rev. Stone's suggestion is detailed in the W&CH edition of 11th May, 1935.

39. W&CH. 5th October, 1935.

40. W&CH. 15th February, 1936. The point here appears to be that the four sections of land in front of numbers 14 to 17 which the Council wished to acquire were owned by the individual owners of these properties (CH of 22nd April, 1939). Furthermore, it was enclosed land as the photograph of Beach Lawn and Adelaide Terrace and the 1925 Ordnance Survey map, both mentioned above, make clear. The position with the other owners of houses along the front may have been that they owned the greens fronting their properties inasmuch as they had shared ownership; unlike the owners of 14 to 17 Beach

Lawn they never owned a distinct section of it. Also, although the land had been enclosed, it was separated from the houses by a narrow passageway between Beach Lawn and Harbord Road.

41. W&CH. 28th November and 5th December, 1936.

42. W&CH. 11th July, 18th July and 10th October, 1936. A number of other items were also discovered, being a decorated, small pot, some coins and tokens, a knife-like implement and a curious egg-shaped boulder or pebble. These editions of the W&CH contain articles by Mr. Lamb on these finds. In short, he describes and gives his observations on them.

43. W&CH. 6th February and 6th March, 1937.

44 and 45. W&CH. 17th April, 1937. No doubt, whatever the gift was that was presented to Councillor Hayes, it was well deserved. A Hindley man by birth, his working life was spent in the railway industry, beginning as a messenger at Hindley in 1883 and terminating as passenger agent at Exchange Station, Liverpool in 1938. He was first elected as a Councillor, for St. John's Ward, in 1924, being re-elected in 1927, 1930, 1933 and 1936. He was elected Chairman of the Council in 1928, Alderman in 1937 and Mayor in 1943. He was a member of several Council committees. Apart from his municipal service he was also involved with a number of local charitable causes.

Approaching his eightieth birthday, and apparently in poor health, he resigned from the Council in February, 1948. He passed away on 17th June, 1948. (Great Crosby U. D. C., An Index of Councillors and Local Government Officers of Great Crosby U. D. C., Waterloo-with Seaforth U. D. C., 1894 to 1937 etc. Unpublished. Waterloo (?), 1985. CLHL, C923.52., W&CH of 26th October, 1929 and Crosby Heralds of 13th November, 1943 and 7th February, 1948). These sources contain further information on Councillor Hayes and his busy life. The Miss. Florence Rollo mentioned is surely the lady who had first been elected as a Councillor in 1935. She was to have a distinguished career in public life ahead of her (Sargant, M. J., 100 Years of Women Councillors. Unpublished. Waterloo (?), 2008. CLHL, C352SAR).

46. W&CH. 24th April, 1937. Multum in parvo is Latin for much in little. My own translation, from a now meagre amount of Latin, which I trust is adequate.

47. W&CH. 10th April, 1937.

48. W&CH. 9th October, 1937.

49. CH. 22nd April, 1939. This article is quite lengthy and contains a lot more information on the opening of Beach Lawn. The Council were again to use borrowed money for the development of the green at Beach Lawn (W&CH of 9th October, 1937). I have been unable to learn what was the total cost of Beach Lawn. However, the report in the W&CH of 9th October, 1937 estimated it at £6,600. A later report in the CH of 8th January, 1938, estimated the cost at £50 more.

50. CH. 15th April, 1939.

51. CH. 22nd April, 1939.

52. CH. 8th January, 1938. I was surprised to read in this edition of Councillor Hayes having difficulty employing men. Also, he appears to be alluding to a ten week work period as was the case with Crescent Garden (W&CH 24th April, 1937).

Jim Gentles, Blucher Street, Waterloo, April 2nd, 2010.