

Dear Councillor Baugh

Re: Watling Gate House and Newton Park

I have been reading with interest the letters and articles in The Sale and Altrincham Messenger regarding Watling Gate House and Newton Park. I have also been passing the information on to my sister who lives in the Rhondda Valley in South Wales. Until the Trafford Newspaper came out this month we have been unsure how we could contact anyone to lodge our vote for keeping these wonderful facilities open, other than publishing a letter in SAM. Therefore, we are writing to you, since you published your address in this month's Trafford News.

WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT WATLING GATE HOUSE AND NEWTON PARK SHOULD BE REFURBISHED AND KEPT, AS COLONEL NEWTON INTENDED, AS A FACILITY WHICH COULD BE ENJOYED BY THE PEOPLE IN THE ALTRINCHAM BOROUGH.

The reason why we are so interested in keeping Watling Gate open is because we have so many happy memories of the building and it is too beautiful a building to let 'go to the dogs'. Let us explain:

Firstly, when I was a pupil of Park Road School (I am 71 now) we were, once a year, crocoddiled across the playing fields from school to Watling Gate to see the dentist! As if we weren't scared enough we had to go through the main hall of Watling Gate and there, lying on the floor, was a real stuffed lion, which, presumably had been killed at some time by Colonel Newton himself, it was acting as a rug and one of the main features of the room. The room was beautifully decorated with lovely velvet covered furniture.

