

## **Minute 5 of Sutton Preparative Meeting held 12 July 1970**

On May 26 1970, Sutton Preparative Meeting moved from Worcester Gardens to new premises at 10 Cedar Road. On the following Sunday we held our first Meeting for Worship there.

We have left our premises at Worcester Gardens with some sadness for it was a place where we had experienced many happy times; and we remember those Friends who, having been with the Meeting since it was formed in the early 1930s, are with us no longer.

Nevertheless we have moved to our new home in a spirit of joy and thankfulness. We thank our architect, Martin Lidbetter, for his work on our behalf and we are grateful to Six Weeks Meeting for all the help and support that they have given us in our negotiations with the London Borough of Sutton. We particularly wish to place on record the faithful service of our own New Premises Committee. Its members were first appointed in January 1962 and over the past eight years have represented our interests and wishes in negotiations with the London Borough of Sutton, with the architect and with the builders. They have had to bear the brunt of much frustration and criticism, which they have done with patience and humour, and the fact that we at last have a purpose-built Meeting Rouse is due in no small measure to their persistence, tact and loving care for Sutton Meeting.

We know we will find 10 Cedar Road strange at first; some of us have reservations about some aspects of the design or about the quality of the workmanship. Defects can be remedied and time will make the unfamiliar building home for us once again.

We are, however, united in our feeling of joy in being in our new surroundings. We accept with gratitude our new Meeting House, not as a cosy retreat from the world, nor as a valuable property to be cherished for its own sake. We accept it rather in a spirit of challenge, for it provides us with additional opportunities of advancing our work in Sutton and district. We give thanks for this gift; for this tool which we can shape to the service of God.

We decide to send a copy of this minute to Six Weeks Meeting.