

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held in the
Small Public Hall, Harpenden on Monday 29 March 1971 at 8.15pm.

The President: His Honour Judge Dow took the chair with
103 members present.

Minutes

1. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on 17 March 1970 were read, confirmed and signed by the President.

Report of General Committee

2. The Report of the General Committee having been circulated was taken as read. Dr. Patten, the retiring Chairman, in moving its adoption said that in its monthly meetings the Committee kept under continual review many subjects affecting the well-being of the Town. Not all of these could be reported but the summary gave some idea of the activity. Mr Jones seconded the proposal to adopt the report and the meeting agreed.

Accounts

3. Mr Booth moved the adoption of the accounts which showed an income of £108 and expenses of £118. The balance at the end of the year was £50. Copies of the accounts having been circulated questions were invited on the details. Mr Lawrence Green seconded the motion to approve the accounts and the meeting agreed. Mr West, the Honorary Auditor, was thanked for his services.

Elections

4. The Secretary thanked the President for his distinguished services during the year and His Honour Judge Dow was unanimously asked to continue in office.

The following officers were thanked and re-appointed

Vice Presidents	Capt K.H. Bond, and Mr L.S. George
New Secretary	G.W. Burrows
New Treasurer	Mr D.L. Booth
New Membership Secretary	Mr C.H. King

Mr West the retiring auditor did not wish to be

that consideration should be given now to his successor.

9 The Committee expressed its thanks to Dr. Charles Patten for having acted as its Chairman for the last year and also to Miss Fennie for allowing it to meet in Mary Ellen's Cafe.

10 The next meeting was fixed for Wednesday
14 April 1971 at Mary Ellen's Cafe at 8pm

14 April 1971.

J. H. Bond.
Chairman.

it was agreed that the subjects to be reported on should be:

1. Lea Valley Mr Wilson
2. Urban Design Group by a representative
3. Questionnaire Secretary
4. Town Centre by a representative of the U.D.G.
5. Common Mrs Johnstone
6. Footpaths Mrs Jones
7. Planning Sub Committee by a member.

The chairman to introduce the discussion and to arrange the order of speakers.

3. Leisure Exhibition

Mr Wilson was to ask for any help he required.

8. Nominations to next years Committee

The present Committee made no further nominations for next years committee.

The Secretary pointed out the disadvantages of the rule introduced in 1967 banning the re-election of retiring members. Some members of the Committee considered that changes in membership were only possible under the new rule and that where necessary continuity could be obtained by co-optation.

The Secretary suggested that the method of circumventing the constitution was open to criticism. If the committee were convinced that its membership should not exceed 3 years for any individual the Secretary pointed out

3 Correspondence.

Due to the postal strike there had been no correspondence except for minor local matters.

4 Common Report.

Mr Loe explained that he had just taken responsibility for the Common report and demonstrated on the plans suggested parking areas. Due to the filling in of the Silver Cup Pond reconsideration had to be given to the use of the Common and also to abuses. Refer to minute 3 of 25 June 1969. The Committee accepted that there must be some parking on the Common for recreational purposes but felt that it should be regulated, and looked forward to seeing revised proposals.

5 Lea Valley Report.

The Council had accepted copies of the report and an encouraging meeting had been held with the Council's representatives and Messrs Bonnington, Taylor, Bost & Wilson.

The Council had asked that there should be no publicity at present and that certain parts of the report dealing with ownership and use of certain areas should be amended to avoid premature planning applications. This was agreed.

6 Annual General Meeting.

The arrangements were confirmed and

Minutes of a Committee meeting held in Mary-Ellen's
Cafe on Monday March 1st 1971 at 8 pm

Present: Dr Charles Potter in the chair, Messrs De Boek,
Mrs Johnston, Miss Haberer, Miss Finnie Mr Jones
and the Secretary

Mr Lock of the Urban Design Group attended to
introduce the joint report on Common parking
and was welcomed to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Williams,
Mrs Elliott, Messrs Lunt, Goacher, Dixon & Wilson.
& Taylor.

1. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 Feb 1971
were read, confirmed and signed by the
Chairman.

2. Matters arising.

Ponds near Southdown Rd on the Common

The Secretary referred to minute 5 of the
previous meeting and said he had inspected
the ponds on several occasions and was
unable to find reasonable grounds for
complaint. In view of the minute 4 of 7 Jan 1970
where we thanked the Council for their action
in clearing the ponds the Secretary had taken
no further action. This was confirmed.

The Secretary outlined the main headings suggested for the report which were agreed.

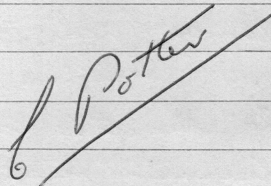
The Chairman with Mr Booth & Mr Wilson were arranging for reports of the society's work to be given in detail at the meeting. The Secretary was instructed to ask Mr Taylor to speak for 5 minutes on the work of the Urban Design Group.

7 Date of the next meeting.

To enable the Committee to consider nominations for next years Committee and to review other items for the agenda - particularly the Treasurers Report it was agreed to advance the next meeting to Monday 1 March 1971. The following meeting was provisionally fixed for 14 April 1971.

This concluded the meeting

1 March 1971

A handwritten signature, likely 'J. Potter', written in ink. The signature is stylized with a large initial 'J' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chairman

5. Ponds near Southdown Road or the Commons

Reference was made to the failure of the Council to have these cleared properly and the Secretary was instructed to write and ask for action to be taken.

6. Agenda etc. Annual Meeting.

The Secretary reported that under Rule 3 the following members resign and were not eligible for re-election. Mr Patten, Mr Wilson, Mr Broadbent, Mr Lomax Green, Mrs Oakley, and Mr Taylor. Mr Popper had already resigned. Mr RB Dixon & Mr MHE Hughes co-opted members were now required to be elected by the Annual Meeting.

The members of next years Committee would be retiring 1972 Mrs Elliott, Mrs Haberer, Mrs Johnstone, Mr Row and Mrs Williams.

retiring 1973 Mr Cull, Mr Soacher, Mrs Dennis, Mr Savage and Mrs Jones.

The Committee agreed to the nomination of Mr Dixon & Mr Hughes which would leave 9 vacancies.

The officers of the Society were all eligible for re-election.

President.	Judge Dow
Vice President	Capt Bond, Mr LS George.
Secretary	Ernst Bosman
Treasurer	DL Bath
Membership Secy.	CM King
Auditor	Mr West.

was agreed.

3. Lea Valley Report.

Copies of the report were given to the Committee who expressed their thanks to the members who were responsible for the production - particularly Mr Wilson who had done the major part of the final assembly of the report. The Treasurer was authorised to pay for the duplication of the Report which he did not expect to exceed £15 after contributions by the Urban Design Group. After discussion it was agreed that no press or other publicity should be attempted until after presentation of the Report to the Council and afterwards only with the agreement of the Council.

4. Questionnaire

Mr Hughes presented lists of members by stated interests. It was agreed that the following members of the Committee telephone the people on the allocated list to keep the interest alive and to report back.

Mr Dixon	Mans
Mr Wilson	Lea Valley
Mrs Jones	Footpaths.

As the sub-committee with the Urban Design Group on the use of the Common had not reported and was not active Mr Johnstone - one of our representatives was asked to investigate the present position and report back.

Minutes of a Committee meeting held in Mary Ellen's Cofe
at 8 pm on Wednesday 10th February 1971.

Present: Dr. Chas Potter in the Chair, Messrs Booth, Hughes
Dixon, Wilson, Miss Williams. Elliott Johnstone Jones
and Miss Fenney and the Secretary.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Haberer,
+ Messrs Lommer Green, Brandeth, Boucher + King.

1. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday
13 January 1971 were read, confirmed and signed
by the Chairman.

2. Matters arising

1. Trees in Rathmsted Park: The Secretary was
instructed to write to the Council suggesting that
no felling should take place until the public had
had opportunity to make their views known.

2. Annual meeting: The Secretary reported that due
to the postal strike he had prepared a newsletter
giving particulars of the AGM and a reminder
of subscriptions due with brief particulars of
current activities and had it delivered by
hand. He pointed out that the increased postal
rates after 15th Feb would place a heavy extra
charge on the Society's finances and proposed
that the membership should be analysed into
areas so that committee members could each
be responsible for a small distribution. This

7. Newsletter

The Secretary was authorised to circulate a Newsletter giving particulars of the annual meeting, a brief report on the questionnaire, a reminder that subscriptions were now due and any other available matters.

8. Trees in Rathamsted Park.

Mr Booth raised the matter and drew attention to the possibility that the Council might authorise felling ~~before~~ and action be taken before objections could be raised.

9. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting was to be at Mang-Ellens ~~Cornwall~~ Cape on Wednesday February 10th and following meeting was provisionally fixed for Wednesday March 10th.

This concluded the meeting.

10th February 1971

J. Potter

Chairman

As regards the additional possible working groups the answers were.

	Appropriate.	Could Help.
Footpaths	90 2	21 2
Trees & Landscapes	86 2	7 2
Rokhamsted Park	81 2	12 2
Amenity	79 2	21 2
Historic Buildings	74 2	10 2
Natural History	69 2	12 2
Museum	62 2	7 2
Civic Newsletter	60 7	7 2.

Mr Hughes pointed out that at least 20% of the non-helpers professed infirmity or age as their reason - not lack of interest. The Committee agreed with Mr Hughes that certain of the above groups should be merged so that we would have 3 or 4 which made a more reasonable division of the work load.

Mr Hughes also briefly summarised the additional points raised by the members. These mainly concerned a membership drive which the Committee considered should be subsequent to the organisation of the additional activities and publicity for the Society and for the Historical Hangover. Other points were already being considered by the Committee.

Mr Hughes was thanked for the very helpful analysis & summary and was assured that the Committee looked forward to his more detailed report.

3 Council Forum

The Secretary read a letter from the Council advising us that an open forum on similar lines to that held in December 1969 would be held on Thursday 11 Feb 1971 at 7.30 when the Chairman of the various committees would answer questions on the work of their committees. After considerable discussion in which tribute was paid to the way the Council kept us informed of their views and decisions it was decided that a question on Traffic Control should be officially asked by the Society.

5 Finance

The Treasurer was requested to pay our annual subscription of £7-10-0 to the Town & Country Planning Assoc. He confirmed that details of all subscriptions to Societies to which we were affiliated would be in the accounts for the year to 31 December 1970.

6 Questionnaire

Mr Hughes gave preliminary particulars of the analysis of the questionnaires returned. At the time of his count 67 returns had been made representing about 35% of the membership, which was a very high response. 88% of the members approved of the current programme. In reply to the question would you be prepared to help these Groups the answers were: -

Harpenden Common	Yes 29%
Lea Valley	Yes 21%
Town Centre Development	Yes 21%
Wans sub-committee	Yes 17%

Bhauman, Mr Booth and Mr Wilson was appointed to arrange the discussion after the formal business. It was agreed that Mrs should illustrate the work of the Society and particularly the reports made by its sub-committees. The Secretary was asked to prepare a report on the business required to be done at the Annual General Meeting.

Correspondance

1) St Albans & Hertfordshire Architectural & Archaeological Society

A letter was read from Mr Mc Eneaney of the St Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological Society acknowledging our thanks and inviting any of our members as visitors to their meetings. He asked we would be interested in taking part in their activities or sponsoring activities in our area.

2) Countryside Plan 1970

A letter from the Clerk to the Urban District Council supported our ideas about recreational areas in the Lea Valley. The appropriate sub-committee were noting the points.

Formal acknowledgement had been received from the County Council noting our suggestion that land from the UDC boundary to Leamy Bridge should be acquired for a public walk if it was still available. The Secretary reported that he had requested a progress report in a telephone conversation but no further action could be reported. Mr Brardeth said he had discussed the matter with C.C. Deekens who was also a Sheathamsted Councillor and said that Mr Deekens had promised to raise the matter in the Council meetings.

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held in Mary-Allen's Cafe
on Wednesday 13th January 1971 at 8 pm.

Present D. C. Patten in the chair, Mrs Johnstone, Mrs Elliott, Mrs Williams
Mrs Jones, Miss Haberer, Miss Finney, Messrs Dow, Booth,
Bradbeth, Savage, Wilson, Hughes Lorraine Green and
the Secretary.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs King, Goacher and
Hopper.

1. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 1970
were read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. Resignation Mr S. J. Hopper in regretting his inability to be
present at the meeting explained that his business
commitments have made it increasingly difficult
to attend committee meetings and accordingly tendered
his ~~resignation~~ resignation which the Committee accepted.

3. Matters arising

(1) The County meeting of amenity societies held to
discuss the possibility of further co-operation was
attended on our behalf by D. C. Patten and
Mr Lorraine Green. D. C. Patten reported on the
proceedings and said that it was decided
that the proposal be dropped.

(2) The Secretary reported that he had booked the
Small Public Hall for Monday 29 March 1971
provisionally for the Annual Meeting. This was
confirmed and he was asked to reserve
the kitchen also. A sub-committee of the

re appointed and the meeting expressed its thanks to him for his service. Mr Colin Smith ACA was appointed hon. auditor.

General Committee: Four nominations had been received and as there were 11 possible vacancies all the nominees were elected to serve for three years.

Messrs R G Dixon and Mrs Hughes had served on the Committee before and Messrs A Eden and J D Crumplin were elected for the first time.

5 There being no further business this concluded the meeting.

After the business of the meeting, members of the Committee gave brief reports of various activities of the Society.

The Secretary reported on the results of the Questionnaire which members had answered, and explained how various working parties were being set up as a result of the members declaring their interests.

Mr Challis of the Urban Design Group outlined the objects of the Group and said that their desire was to improve the urban scene - and their approach was constructive - not just critical. Mr Challis mentioned some of the activities of the Group - design lectures which were fairly well attended, consideration of the draft conservation proposals, and various study groups some of which were conducted jointly with the Society.

Mr Wilson gave an account of the work behind the preparation of the Lea Valley Report. He described how this somewhat neglected part of Harpenden could be made into a valuable community asset if undesirable

development could be contained and if walk ways ~~and~~ through the valley partly along the riverside and partly along the disused railway could be created.

Mr Cammings reported on the joint committee with the Urban Design Group which was considering the Town Centre. One of the major problems was the existence of the A6 trunk road which went right through the town as the High Street. Studies were being made to determine how best the traffic could be kept moving while still allowing the High Street to be the centre of the town. So many schemes which had been suggested to improve the traffic flow were merely moving the problem to other parts of the town. Considerable discussion took place and the meeting endorsed the ideas of the sub committee.

Mrs Johnstone gave the Committee views on the ~~use~~ use of the Common. A continuing problem was the increasing number of cars being parked on the Common for fuel etc and the litter that their occupants left behind them. A sub committee was making a survey to see what suggestions they could make to the Council to preserve this unique asset which the town possessed.

Mrs Jones said that as one result from the replies to the Questionnaire was the formation of a working party to study the footpaths in the area. A start had been made to keep all these rights of way under review and instanced the loss of the footpath from Crabtree Lane. In this case an alternative had been provided but there was need for continued vigilance.

Mr Brandeth said that although the Council had many records and items of historical interest in their keeping the Society thought that there was

a need for it to consider what ~~records~~ was
desirable to record the extra information which was in
the possession of so many interested and interesting
people. One subject which should be systematically
recorded was the dates when the various developments
took place and prominent features were built.

The President expressed the thanks of the meeting to
the members who had described these activities of the
Society.

R. Graham Dow
27 March 1972

Minutes of a Committee meeting held in Mary Ellen's
Cafe on Wednesday 14 April 1971 at 8pm.

Present. Capt Bond Mrs Dixon, Crompton, Derrett, Squire, Brown,
and Loraine Greer Mrs Johnstone, Mrs Jones Mrs Williams, Miss
Sabers and Miss Finnie and the Secretary.

Apologies for absence were received from the Treasurer, the
Membership Secretary Mrs Elliott, Mr Brandreth and Mr Goacher.

Capt Bond was asked to take the chair for the present
meeting, and the election of a permanent chairman was
deferred to the next meeting.

1. The new members to the Committee were welcomed.
2. It was agreed that the following members be
co-opted to the Committee.

Representing the Urban Design Group. Mr Challis & Mr Squires

Other members, Mr Loraine Greer, Mr Brandreth, Mrs Burgen,
Mr D.A. Brown, Mr A. Derrett.

3. The minutes of the meeting held on March 1st 1971 were
read, ^{confirmed} ~~accepted~~ and signed by the Chairman.

4. Lea Valley Report.

The Secretary reported that the response to the
exercise had been most gratifying. It was
agreed that Messrs Book & Wilson should continue
to represent the Society in further publicising the
scheme and in urging the authorities to action.

5

Neighbourhood Councils

The Secretary read a notice of a meeting to promote the formation of neighbourhood councils which would be the approximate equivalent of the parish council. Capt Bond agreed to represent the Society at the meeting on May 8th.

6

Fire Brigade: Station open day.

A letter was read giving particulars of the open day at the Harpenden Fire Station.

7

St Nicholas Churchyard.

A letter from the Rector telling us of the concern of the Parochial Church Council about the fouling of the churchyard by dogs. They were to publicise their concern and asked for our support.

8

Common

Mrs Johnstone said she had kept in touch with the work of the V.D.G. but had nothing further to report. She was asked to arrange for a sub-committee to be formed of our interested members working in association with the L.A.C.

9

Traffic Control. Station Rd / High St.

The Secretary reported that the President, Dr Potter and the Secretary represented the Society at the joint meeting with the Highways Committee of the Council and the V.D. Group and the local Chamber of Trade. The County officials outlined

then proposals for traffic lights at Station Road/High St junction with no right turn from Station Road.

All Northbound traffic would turn ~~off~~ south along Southdown Road and negotiate a new roundabout on the Triangle before joining the A6. The Chamber of Trade opposed the traffic lights and supported the roundabout. The U.D. Group thought the roundabout unnecessary at this stage and supported a modified scheme of traffic lights. The County agreed with the U.D. Group. We now await the Council's re-actions -

12 Litter on the Common.

Comment was made about the amount of litter on the Common and suggestions were made that volunteer parties should tidy up. Capt Bond suggested it would be better if the Society's representatives reported litter to the Surveyor and pressed for official action. The subject was referred to the Commons sub. committee.

11 Redbourne Lane.

The modified schemes were outlined but it was felt that loss of trees on the bend was regrettable. As the Urban Design Group had not studied these proposals it was agreed that the Secretary supply them with full details and ask their views. If any emergency action was required Mr Dixon, Mr Brown and the Secretary were to act.

12

Paths

Mrs Jones reported that the sub committee had met and were checking on the paths in the vicinity.

13

Summer Meeting

Mr Lowmer Green agreed to be responsible for arrangements for a meeting on June 19th.

14

Historical Records

Mr Brandeth was unfortunately prevented from attending but conveyed his proposals for collecting original & copies of records. Capt Bond pointed out the importance of recording dates of historical events - including recent changes and it was agreed to encourage Mr Brandeth to expand his ideas.

15

Bungalow Southdown Rd.

Mrs Johnstone referred to the proposal to build a bungalow behind the Queens Head Hotel and asked whether objection could be made. Mr Dixon said that there was existing planning permission and the Council were insisting on the retention of the hedge for screening.

16

The next meeting was arranged for May 12th and it was proposed that the June meeting be on the 9th.

12 May 1974

R. Graham Dow
Chairman

Minutes of a Committee meeting held on Wednesday
12 May 1971 at Mary Ellen's Cafe. at 8 p.m.

Present: Messrs Brown, Eden, Savage, Hughes, Crumplin, Derrett,
Lawrence Green, Booth, Capt Bond, Judge Dow, ~~Mr Derrett~~.
Mr Elliott, Mrs Jones, Mrs Walker, Miss Mahoney, Miss Turner,
and the Secretary.

Mr Curneen represented the Urban Design Group.

Apologies were received from Mrs Johnstone, Mrs Bargin,
Mr Squires, Mr Carl, Mr Soacher and Mr Chalkis.

The President - His Honour Judge Dow took the Chair.

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 1971 were
read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. Matters arising:

a) Lea Valley report. Mr Booth said that the cost of
the report would be about £45. The Council had
promised to contribute £20 and sales were about £10.
The deficit of £15 would be shared with the urban
design group.

A meeting to be held in St Andrews Hall would
be attended by Councillor Dyer and Mr Bullock of
the Works C.C.

b) Redbourne Lane: The views of the Urban Design
Group were to be obtained and Mr Brown and
Mr Lawrence Green were asked to represent the
Society in objecting to the proposals as they now
stood.

c) Summer Outing. Mr Lawrence Green reported that

he had arranged the outing for June 19 to Waddleson House. The members would be circulated immediately.

2 Historical Records.

Mr Brardeth reported that a start had been made on copying historical records and about 100 prints were in process. Mr Brardeth was authorised to form a sub-committee to help him.

3 Co-operation with the Harpenden Trust.

The Secretary read a letter from the Trust suggesting a joint committee to plan the use of the small triangle of land between the Trust Centre and the railway. Mr Eden & Mrs Williams were asked to represent the Society on the proposed committee.

4 Potters Bar Society

This Society were having an exhibition and invited representatives of the Harpenden Society to attend. As the invitation was for a weekend no members of the committee were free to go and the Secretary was asked to express our regrets.

5 Crabtree Lane footpath

A complaint that the footpath had been diverted had been referred to our footpaths subcommittee. Mrs Jones reported some irregularity in closing the footpath but alternatives had been given which should be

adequate.

Capt Bond mentioned that the footpath from Salisbury Avenue to the Centre of the town was often in a dirty condition and the footpaths committee were asked to keep observation and complain if necessary.

6 Douglas Road Developments.

A letter from a member complaining that the area was being over built and too many trees were being destroyed had been passed to the plans sub-committee.

7 Neighbourhood Councils

Capt Bond had represented the Society at the first public meeting to publicise the proposal to urge the Government to establish Neighbourhood Councils.

Capt Bond summarised the reasons for forming these Councils which would roughly correspond with Parish Councils.

The report was welcomed and it was agreed to keep in touch with the proposals and to support the Association.

8 Traffic Lights

Mr Cunneen summarised the various proposals and after discussion it was agreed that the matter be considered again at the next meeting. It was felt that the proposals were not satisfactory and the Secretary was authorised

to write to the County Council and to the
Local Council indicating that the Society
considered that the present proposal would
create further difficulties.

- 2 The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday
~~July~~ June 9th and the July meeting was
provisionally fixed for the 14th. There would
be no meeting in August if the full committee.
As the Secretary would not be available
on June 9th the Treasurer Mr. Bock agreed
to act.

This concluded the meeting.

9 June 1971.

J. C. Savage-
Chairman

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held on Wednesday
9th June 1971 at Mary Ellen's Cafe at 8.0 p.m.

Present Mr. John Savage in the chair; Mr. Booth, Mr. Crumplin, Mr. Carl, Mr. Derrett, Mr. Eden, Mrs. Elliott, Miss Finnie, Mr. Conner Green, Miss Haberer and Mrs. Williams.

Apologies were received from Mr. Brown, Mrs. Johnstone, Mrs. Jones and the Secretary.

1 The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 1971, having been read and confirmed, were signed by Mr. Savage following his election as Chairman of the Committee.

2 The Chairman explained the difficulties he might have in attending every meeting, and at his suggestion it was agreed to invite Mr. Hughes to serve as Vice-Chairman.

3 Matters arising

(a) Lea Valley Report: Mr. Booth said that he and Mr. Wilson had attended a meeting of the Standing Conference on the Hertfordshire Countryside on 20th May at which Mr. Wilson had spoken about the Report and shown some slides. The Report had been favourably received, and there was some hope that the County might adopt it as a draft plan for the area if it were submitted in a revised form after further consultations.

A meeting of members interested in the formation of a group was held at Batford on 26th May, at which Councillors Bond and Fryd were present. As a result the Upper Lea Valley Group of the Society was set up with an elected steering committee whose convenor would be Mr. Wilson. The meeting was informed by Mr. Butcher who was also present that the County Council would be recommended to purchase the old railway track running from the U.D.C.

boundary to Leasybridge Lane.

The Society had since received a letter from the UDC Clerk that the National Children's Home were not prepared to contemplate use of that part of the track which they owned to the north of Harpenden as a public footpath. The Committee felt this matter should be pursued, and agreed that a letter should be sent to the NCH for a discussion of their views.

(b) Town Centre Traffic: The Design Group had considered their position in the light of the Council's decision to support the County's scheme, and had decided to continue informal discussions with the County Surveyor in the hope that the worst features of the scheme might be modified. In view of this the Committee decided that no further action was required, bearing in mind that a letter to the Minister for the Environment might be necessary if this approach failed.

(c) The Harpenden Trust: Mr. Eden was in touch with Mr. Finch about a meeting to discuss the future use of the small piece of land by the railway bridge.

(d) Footpaths: In the absence of Mrs. Jones a report was given by Miss Haberer. It seemed likely that the Crabtree Lane footpath would be longer and better, and there were therefore no grounds for objection.

(e) Car Parking on the Common: There was nothing further to report, but the Committee were given to understand that the Society would be asked for its views by the Council's Parks and Open Spaces Committee which would be undertaking its own survey in the near future. Miss Haberer drew attention to the statutory provisions in the Road Traffic Act 1960 which prohibited the driving of cars on common land. It was agreed that the matter should be considered further at the next meeting.

- (f) Civic Trust: Mr. Eden was nominated to attend the Trust's conference on 8th and 9th July.

4 Appointment of Hon. Secretary

The Committee were reminded that Mr. Bowran did not wish to be considered for re-election at the AGM and that steps should be taken as soon as possible to nominate his successor. The secretary carried a heavy burden of work which would continue to grow as the Society's activities expanded. It was felt that some division of his responsibilities among members who were willing to undertake specific jobs was now essential, and it was agreed that the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer should consider how best this might be done.

5 Redbourne Lane

The public enquiry into the proposal to widen and straighten Redbourne Lane at Hatching Green would be held on 29th June. The Design Group was supporting the Society in its opposition and had provided plans and photographs. It was agreed that the Group should be invited to nominate one of its members to represent put the Society's case to the Inspector.

- (6) The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 14 July.

DW Borel

14 July 1971

Minutes of a Committee meeting held on Wednesday
14 July 1971 at Mary Ellen's Cafe at 8pm.

Present. Messrs Book, Green, Carl Dennet, Agnew, Edler, Brown
Mrs Elliott, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Williams, Mrs Jones, Mrs Haberer
and Mrs Finney. and the Secretary

Apologies for absence were received from Judge Dow,
Messrs Brandt, Hughes, Dixon & Savage.

The lack of the Urban Design Group was present to
address the meeting on the joint consultations on
parking on the Common.

1. Mr Book was appointed Chairman for the meeting.
2. The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 1971 were read
conferred and signed by the Chairman
3. Redbourne Lane/Hatching Green.

Mr Eggleston had represented the Society at the Public
Enquiry on June 29th 1971. and the Thanks of the
Committee were recorded.

4. Summer Outing

Mr Loomer Green reported on the successful outing to
Waddesden Manor. Due partly to 42 members going
and to the distribution of the cucklers by hand a
profit was made on the outing.

5 Quint Trust Conference

Mr Eden had attended the conference and reported on the meetings. He commented on the West Walk at Leicester and suggested it might be possible to arrange a visit under the auspices of Mr Smigielski the City planning officer. A number of members of the Committee expressed interest.

He outlined the revolving fund operated by some Societies whereby properties were acquired, improved and re-sold and the cycle resumed.

Arising from this Mr Eden suggested that the Society should consider the changing character of Cavells Road and decide whether there was possibility of enhancement of the area by some form of co-operative planning. The obvious problems were the existing sub-standard of the lower part and the intrusion of the garages of East Common on the upper part.

It was decided to ask the Urban Design Group representative to report on discussion and to ask for the views of the Group particularly of the possibility of an overall plan for the area.

6 Lea Valley Depot

It was reported that the County Council were prepared to buy the railway line up to Leasing, Boving and that the NCHC were not willing to ~~take~~ sell their portion of the line. Mr Batcher of the County Council was being asked to take this further.

7 Car Parking on the Common

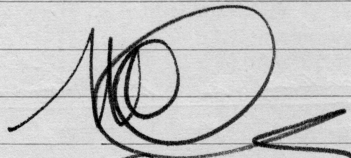
The Lack of the Urban Design Group outlined the

proposals for car parking on the Commons. He had divided the area into sectors: the area round the Bass Lamb trees, round the cricket pitch, between Walkers Road & Cravells Road, and Lymbury district and near the Banville cricket ground. A very lengthy discussion took place on the problem as a whole and on each area and views ranging from a proposed total ban on all parking to a realisation that considerable parking was inevitable were expressed.

Eventually the views of the sub-committee were accepted as reasonable for presenting to the Council and Mr Laek agreed to produce the final draft and supply a copy to the Society for incorporating in its records.

The Committee expressed its thanks to Mr Laek.

8 The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday
8 Sept 1971.


Arthur Chairman

8 September 1971

Minutes of a Committee meeting, held on Wednesday
8th September 1971 at 8 pm in Mary Ellen's Copse.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Williams,
Mrs Seay, Brardrett, Goacher, and Eden.

Present. Mr Hughes in the chair, Mrs Loveman, Euan, Carl,
Derrutt, Brown, Crumplin, Agvies and Book, Miss Haberer,
Miss Tunney, Mrs Elliott, Mrs Johnstone.

1. Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 1971 were read,
confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

- i) Nothing had developed about the suggested ~~walk~~ visit
to the New Walk at Leicester suggested by Mr Eden
- ii). There was nothing further to report about the public
enquiry at Kitching Green and Redburn Lane.

3. Car parking on the Common.

A letter was read from the Leader of the Urban Design
Group enclosing the joint proposals regarding the parking
of cars on Harpenden Common. The report was agreed
subject to some reservations regarding the total
prohibition of parking except at Bank Holidays in the
area of the Baa Lamb trees and the old Silver Cup Pond.
It was thought that prohibition here might cause equal
trouble elsewhere and that the ban might only be
practicable for periods enough to let the grass
recover. The Secretary was instructed to advise
the Council of the Secretary's views.

After you read from Major Cuthbert's report regarding the proposed by the County Council to build a school on part of the land at Aberystwyth. I have taken, both and I have not Major Cuthbert and discussed the estate subject with him. The family wishes to retain the whole area as a private open space. The Committee discussed the subject at some length and generally concluded that it might be difficult to justify retaining the area as a private open space and that the proposed development of part of the site by the County Council for a school might be less objectionable for other families. The Committee recognized that the family could give no indication of what was they would make of the property after the death of the late Mr. Cuthbert who has died here at present. The question of death duties would undoubtedly be a major factor in determining the family's attitude.

5 Land between Railway & Hospital

According to a notice that Mr. Cuthbert was being used as agent for garden refuse & was being used and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Council.

6 Review of Hospital

It should not being present has asked him to return to report on the plan for reviewing matters of local interest. Mr. Cuthbert outlined the proposed area reviewing scheme and referred to about the subject. He suggested that the cost of review would not exceed £5 and

The Treasurer was authorised to provide Miss Haberer with what she required.

If Local Government is reorganised in the way proposed some problems will arise about the custody of documents, records and things of local interest at present cared for by the Council.

The Clerk to the Council was concerned about this subject and was already making inquiries.

7 Autumn meeting.

It was decided to have the Autumn meeting on ~~Tuesday~~ ^{Monday} November 22 1971. The subjects proposed were

- 1) activities of Rathamsted
- 2) a speaker from the National Trust.
- 3) Films - preferably by Kelzma.
- 4) J. Hawkes.
- 5) A speaker from the Arts Society.

8 Town Centre

Mr Squire on behalf of the Urban Design Group asked for a representative and interested members to the joint committee on the Town Centre. Mr Brown was appointed as the Committee representative and the Secretary was instructed to supply Mr Squire with the names of interested members.

9 Crucible Road.

The Urban Design Group did not think they could be of help at this stage and suggested the Society should consider the matter further.