

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a committee meeting held on 15th February, 1977
at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library

Present: Mrs. Russell in the chair
Mrs. Elliott, Mr. Borthwick, Mr. Booth, Mrs. Catterfeld,
Mrs. Cuneen, Mr. A. Evans, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Parsons,
Mr. Scowen, Miss Spurr, Mr. Ward.

Apologies for absence were received from Lady Bawden

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING held on 18th January were approved and signed.

2. REPORTS FROM SUB-GROUPS

(a) Plans

Mrs. Russell reported that she had been informed by the National Farmers' Union of a proposal in the 1977 Bedfordshire County Structure Plan for the future development of farm land at Thrales End to provide housing for 20,000 people. Objections were to be made by 24 February. Very great concern was felt and it was decided to take immediate action. Messrs. A. and R. Evans had looked into the details of the proposal, which the Beds County Council had refused to include in the 1976 County Structure Plan. Mr. A. Evans agreed to formulate the Society's objections and send them to Mr. Geoffrey Cowley, the County Planning Officer. He would send similar letters to Hertfordshire County Council, St. Albans District Council, Harpenden Parish Council, South Bedfordshire District Council, Conservation Society of Great Britain, Council for the Protection of Rural England, Hertfordshire Society, Local Ratepayers' Association, Herts. and Middx. Trust for Nature Conservation and the local Press asking them to support the Society's objections. Public opinion would be solicited later and the Society's stand at the Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition could publicise the proposal.

It was reported that plans for extensions at Rothamsted were now available and Miss Spurr agreed to inspect them.

(b) Trees

Mrs. Jones reported on the response to the appeal for trees. She had received £8. and several suggestions. Rothamsted would be responsible for replacing the elms outside the old chapel on West Common and the National Council of Women wished to plant a tree in memory of a member who had recently died. It was agreed that the Tree Group should draw up a list of suggestions for planting to be forwarded to the Parish Council.

(c) Common Group

In Lady Bawden's absence Mrs. Russell read a note from her saying she thought it was important to make clear that any clearing of the Common must be done through the Parish Council. If no action was taken to clear the ponds, she would write to the Ratepayers' Association.

(d) Footpaths

The Ramblers' Association had confirmed that they would provide a speaker for the meeting on 7 March.

(e) Lea Valley Group

Mrs. Catterfeld reported that a members' working party had started work on the project to improve the horse and pedestrian access path that connects Marquis Lane with the bridlepath to Leasey Bridge. Despite appeals in the Press, no volunteers had come forward. The Group's Annual Public Meeting was provisionally fixed for 15 April.

3. FUTURE MEETINGS

The Annual General Meeting would be held on Monday, 7 March, followed by a talk by a representative of the Ramblers' Association.

Five members of the Committee were due to retire and proposals for nominations were made.

On 10 May a film on Windsor would be shown by a representative of the Civic Trust.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Hertfordshire Society - Newsletter

Civic Trust - giving details of an appeal against the use of 40 tonne lorries. It was decided to send a letter of objection. The Trust also appealed for a subscription of £2.50 towards the "Civic Trust News".

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition

It was now decided to make trees a feature of the exhibit.

Mr. E. Meadows was also providing photographs to illustrate the three themes - "Cause for Comment", "Cause for Commendation" and "Cause for Condemnation". If the proposed development at Thrales End was not ruled out at the meeting on 24th February, this would also be included in the exhibit.

Revised membership leaflets would be available.

Membership Campaign

In reply to a question from Mrs. Catterfeld, Mrs. Russell said the campaign on the Aldwickbury Estate had been disappointing and had produced only about five new members.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, 15 March at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

AGENDA for Committee Meeting on *Tuesday... April... 19²¹* at 7.45 pm in
the Public Library

1. Minutes of the meeting held on *March... 15²¹*.
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Reports from sub groups - Commons Group

Plans

Trees

Footpaths

Special Projects

Lea Valley

4. Future meetings
5. Secretary's correspondence
6. Any other business
7. Date of next committee meeting

1) *Spotlight on leisure*
2) *Annual dinner.*

Mr Ward
Mr Savage

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on 15 March, 1977
at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library

Present: Mrs. Russell in the chair
Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Catterfield (part-time), Mr. Dixon,
Mr. R. Evans (part-time), Mr. Harrison, Mrs. Johnstone,
Mr. Noble, Mr. Scowen, Miss Spurr, Mr. Ward, Mr. Weston.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. A. Evans
New members were welcomed. Mrs. Russell reported that
Mr. Borthwick had kindly agreed to act as Treasurer
until a successor could be found.

A proposal by Mr. Weston, seconded by Mr. Dixon, that
Vice-Presidents should be invited to attend committee
meetings as ex-officio members was agreed.

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING held on 15 February were approved and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Mrs. Russell reported that the Annual General Meeting had been
well attended. Mr. David Sharp of the Ramblers' Association had
given an interesting and well-illustrated talk on footpaths.

3. SUB-GROUPS

The Sub-Groups were re-constituted as follows:

(a) COMMON

Mrs. Johnstone (Convenor), Mr. Ward, Miss Ashford, Mr. Scowen.
Miss Thurston to be invited to serve.
Mrs. Johnstone reported on the bad state of the Common outside
Red Gables and the Spinney. She agreed to write to the Parish
Council suggesting that white posts should be erected to prevent
encroachment of cars on to the verges. She would also enquire about
the erection of the notices to mark the horse rides.

(b) PLANS

Mr. R. Evans (Convenor), A. Evans, R. Dixon, I Noble, Miss Spurr,
Mr. Weston and Mr. Harrison.
Plans for extensions at Rothamsted had been exhibited at Harpenden
Hall. Mr. Noble agreed to meet the architect to discuss the plans
and the screen of trees.

(c) TREES

Mr. Scowen (Convenor), Mrs. Goss, Mrs. Jones, Miss Spurr.
Mrs. Johnstone's suggestion that occasional joint meetings of the
Tree and Common Groups would be useful, was agreed.
Mr. Scowen reported that the Group had met Mr. Arnold and looked
at sites for tree planting. The Girl Guides would plant two birches
on Leyton Green and the Council would plant hornbeams in Amenbury
Lane. The Society would be responsible for an avenue of limes and
hornbeams along the footpath leading to the swimming pool.
Mr. Arnold recommended that planting should be left until November.
It was also agreed that a low-growing tree, such as a yew, should
be planted on Church Green between the War Memorial and the Church.
On Saturday, 19 March, Mr. Fryd would plant a beech tree on the
Common outside the Inn on the Green to replace one damaged by
vandals. Members were asked to attend if possible.

Trees would form a feature of the Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition and forms inviting people to subscribe and to "adopt a tree for Jubilee" would be available.

(d) FOOTPATHS

The Lea Valley Group was actively concerned with footpaths and there was close liaison with the Society.

(e) SPECIAL PROJECTS

Mr. Usher, who had resigned as Convenor, had suggested three projects: (a) Improvement of the car park and shopping area at Southdown. The District Council now had plans in hand for this. (b) Clearing up the area of Station Road at the junction with Carlton Road. (c) Award Scheme for new building or renovation. It was agreed that citations should be made at the Annual General Meeting and awards at the Annual Dinner.

(f) LEA VALLEY

Mrs. Catterfield would continue to report.

4. FUTURE MEETINGS

On 10 May a film on Windsor would be shown by a representative of the Civic Trust.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Russell read a letter stating that the seat in Station Road given by the Society had fallen into disrepair. It was agreed to ask the District Council to repair it.

Mrs. Russell also read a letter from Mr. Pat Wilson expressing his thanks and appreciation on his appointment as a Vice-President. Mrs. Elliott reported that the Society had been invited to send a representative to the opening ceremony of the Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition. It was agreed that Mr. Ward should attend.

The Department of Transport had replied saying the Society's objections to 40 tonne lorries would be taken into account when their use was considered.

Herts and Middlesex Trust for Nature Conservation asked for help in recruiting new members.

Council for the Protection of Rural England and the Herts Federation of Amenity Societies - renewal of subscriptions.

City of St. Albans, Public Relations Officer, outlining objections to the extension of Luton and Stansted Airports.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition

Mr. Ward reported that the Society's stand would be in the large Public Hall and would feature Trees, the proposed West Hyde development and illustrations on the three themes - "Cause for Comment, Commendation and Condemnation".

(b) West Hyde Development

Mr. Harrison reported that a committee had been set up by St. Albans District Council to organise opposition to any development at West Hyde by Bedfordshire County Council. He was co-ordinating the campaign, and a public meeting would be held in Harpenden in the near future. Mr. Ward proposed and Miss Spurr seconded a proposal that Mr. R. Evans should represent the Society on the Committee. This was agreed.

Mrs. Russell read a letter from Bedfordshire County Council reporting the result of their meeting on 24 February. Although the original proposal to include West Hyde as a future area

for development had been amended, the threat still existed and immediate action was necessary. Mr. R. Evans said he had written an article for the "Herts Advertiser" on the subject and it would appear in the next issue.

(c) Estate agents' "For Sale" boards.

Mr. Harmer had asked Mrs. Russell about the Society's reaction to the many sale boards being put up in Harpenden by estate agents from elsewhere. Mr. Dixon explained that hitherto a gentleman's agreement had existed between Harpenden estate agents to put up boards only on business premises and new building estates. The Committee supported this agreement but felt that without a bye-law against them, the erection of sale boards could not be prohibited.

(d) Future of the Red House

Mr. Dixon reported that the Hospital Sub-Group would shortly publish a report and recommendations.

7. DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19 April at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

AGENDA for Committee Meeting on *Tues May 17* at 7.45 pm in
the Public Library

1. Minutes of the meeting held on *April 19*.
2. Matters arising from the minutes. *Report on meeting May 10*
3. Reports from sub groups - Commons Group

Plans

Trees

Footpaths

Special Projects

Lea Valley

4. Future meetings *Summer outing*
5. Secretary's correspondence
6. Any other business
7. Date of next committee meeting

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on 19 April, 1977
at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library

Present: Mrs. Russell in the chair
Mrs. Catterfeld, Mr. Curl, Mr. R. Evans, Mrs. Johnstone,
Mr. Noble, Mr. Parsons, Miss Spurr, Mr. Ward, Mr. Weston.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Elliott,
Mr. Booth, Mr. Dixon, Mr. A. Evans and Mr. Harrison

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING held on 15 March were approved and signed.

2. SUB-GROUPS

(a) COMMON

Mrs. Johnstone reported that she had written to the Parish Council about car parking and horse rides. Mr. Weston, who had recently been appointed part-time warden of the Common, said he would take action on these points. He was also responsible for the greens in the village and stressed the importance of maintaining the chain fences around them to protect the grass. Efforts were being made to get the proprietors of San Toy to remove ice-cream advertisements on Church Green.

It was agreed that schoolchildren should again be asked to help in tidying up the Common in the summer, and Mrs. Johnstone would write to St. George's and St. Dominic's Schools.

Miss J. M. Thurston had agreed to be a member of the Common Group.

(b) TREES

A suggestion had been received from Mr. Eric Meadows that Bowers Way car park would be improved by the planting of trees along the front. This was agreed.

Mrs. Catterfeld reported that Cole Plastics would soon be leaving Batford, and thought it was important that the poplar trees on the site should be retained if any re-development took place. Miss Spurr agreed to approach Mr. Arnold about putting a preservation order on them.

(c) FOOTPATHS

Mrs. Russell had received a list of Lea Valley Walks which would be published in the next Newsletter.

Mrs. Catterfeld circulated copies of an excellent Lea Valley Guide, now on sale in Harpenden.

(d) PLANS

Mr. R. Evans regretted that owing to pressure of work he could not be Convenor of the Plans Group. Mr. Noble agreed to do so.

It was reported that about 300 people had attended the public meeting to protest against the inclusion of West Hyde in the Bedfordshire County Council's Structure Plan, and strong feeling against the proposal was unanimous. Mr. R. Evans circulated copies of the letter of objection addressed on the behalf of the Society to Mr. Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, asking him to reject the plan and direct Bedfordshire County Council to

carry out more public consultation before re-submission. He thought it was very important that the inclusion of West Hyde in the County Structure Plan and the development of Luton Airport should not be linked. He said that a stronger claim could be made against the inclusion of farmland in the plan if it were graded higher on the Green Belt scale. At present the land at West Hyde was grade 3 but Mr. Pigott of Thrales End Farm with the support of the National Farmers' Union, was trying to get it upgraded.

Mr. Weston reported on several planning applications -

Alterations to the forecourt of the garage at Kinsbourne Green might entail access across common land. Mr. Curl agreed to examine the plans.

Ten houses and garages to be built on land in Lower Luton Road. Mr. Noble agreed to inspect the plans.

A proposal to use land in Leyton next to the Old House to store motor vehicles. This was deplored and a letter of protest would be sent to the District Council.

An extension to Bethesda Home in Luton Road. Mr. Noble would examine the plans.

Mr. R. Evans reported that the A6 between St. Albans and Luton would cease to be designated a trunk road. It would then be the responsibility of the County Council and could have effects on the plans for improving the traffic routes through Harpenden. The Society would watch developments.

Mr. Noble said he had examined the plans for extensions at Rothamsted and was arranging to meet their architect.

3.

MEETINGS

Mrs. Russell reported that as she had found the Civic Trust film "A new face for Britain" to be shown on 10 May, to be of very short duration, a new Civic Trust slide lecture on "Local Amenity Societies" would also be included in the programme. Mr. Pat Wilson had agreed to read the script.

Mr. Ward reported on a very successful exhibit at the recent Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition, resulting in the enrolment of over 100 new members. The exhibit was later shown in the Public Library and was still available. He would be showing it shortly at a meeting of the local group of PROBUS.

Mrs. Johnstone said the Annual Dinner and the following talk by Mr. Donald Fisher, Chief Education Officer, were excellent. About 100 people had attended. It was suggested that plans for the next Annual Dinner should be discussed in the autumn and that it should perhaps have a different form and be held at a less busy time of year.

4.

SECRETARY'S CORRESPONDENCE

In Mrs. Elliott's absence, Mrs. Russell reported the receipt of:
Newsletter from Herts. Federation of Amenity Societies.

Newsletter from Council for the Protection of Rural England.

Agenda from Harpenden Parish Council for Public Meeting.

Notice of St. Albans Jubilee Ball on 6 May.

Letter from LADACAN about the Hyde development. Mrs. Russell would reply saying that the Society had already agreed to send a representative to the Working Party appointed to organise the protest

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Parsons reported that the Parish Council was supporting the participation of children in the "Keep Britain Tidy Campaign". During the week 29 May to 4 June childrens' efforts to tidy up the town and the common would be sponsored, but they would need supervision by adults. Mrs. Russell agreed to publicise the week in the Newsletter and to appeal for help.

6. DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING.

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 17 May at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

AGENDA for Committee Meeting on *June 21* at 7.45 pm in
the Public Library

1. Minutes of the meeting held on ... *May 17.*
2. Matters arising from the minutes. *Mr Ward, St. Albans Road system.*
3. Reports from sub groups - Commons Group
 - Plans
 - Trees
 - Footpaths
 - Special Projects
 - Lea Valley
4. Future meetings
5. Secretary's correspondence
6. Any other business
7. Date of next committee meeting

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on 17 May, 1977
at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library

Present: Mrs. Russell in the chair
Mrs. Elliott, Mr. Booth, Mrs. Catterfeld, Mr. A. Evans,
Mr. Curl, Mr. Harrison, Mrs. Johnstone, Mr. Noble,
Mr. Scowen, Miss Spurr, Mr. Ward, Mr. Weston

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Dixon,
Mr. R. Evans and Mr. Parsons.

1. MINUTES of the last meeting held on 19 April were approved and signed.

2. SUB-GROUPS

(a) COMMON

Mrs. Johnstone reported that the Parish Council had approved the suggestion to erect wooden posts to prevent car parking outside Red Gables, and she would get estimates for the wood. She had also asked the Council to put up the signs marking horse-rides and the boards displaying the bye-laws relating to the Common.

Mr. Weston reported that the roadsides had been cleared up at the top of the Common. The Jubilee bonfire would be held on the corner of Walkers Road and a fence was being put up to enclose it. The chestnut fence opposite Rothamsted Park entrance was being replaced with grass banks and missing chains on the greens were being replaced

(b) PLANS

Mr. Noble reported that he had arranged a meeting with the Rothamsted architect. He agreed to inspect the plans for two houses in the garden of the Bourne, for which planning application had been made. Mr. Weston reported on applications for developments at Kinsbourne Green, Birch Way, Rowan Way and Aldwickbury Crescent.

Mr. Curl had received a letter from Mr. B. Rees, a new member of the Society who had recently retired after many years in local government service, offering to help in checking planning and development proposals. It was agreed that he should be co-opted on to the Plans Group.

A member had expressed concern at the use by heavy vehicles of the entrance to Thompson's Close from the High Street. This was thought to be prohibited but it would be confirmed with St. Albans District Council before a complaint was lodged with Sainsbury and Putterills. Mrs. Russell reported that a meeting and exhibition on the St. Albans City and District Plan and Road Options would be held in St. Albans on 19 May.

(c) TREES

Mr. Scowen reported that Mrs. Goss was getting in touch with Mr. Arnol about putting a preservation order on the trees at Batford Mill. If any developments took place at the Bourne, it was suggested that there were probably trees on the site that should be preserved.

2. (c) Mrs. Curl, Chairman of the Common Sub-Committee of the Parish Council, had asked for the Society's opinion on the future of the hollow elm tree near the Cross Keys. Mr. Arnold had said that an iron girdle was needed to make it safe, but this would be very expensive and might not prolong its life for many years. The Committee voted, with regret, that it would be advisable to remove the tree.

It was agreed that the Tree Group should now order trees for autumn planting, using the funds collected for the purpose.

Mrs. Johnstone reported that some East Common residents had offered to plant trees at Limbrick Road and Eastmoor Park.

(d) FOOTPATHS

Mention would be made in the June Newsletter of walks planned by the Lea Valley Group.

3. FUTURE MEETINGS

A provisional booking of the Public Hall had been made for the next Annual Dinner, but in view of the loss incurred this year, the question of holding the dinner would be reviewed later.

Suggestions were made for talks on Architecture, Operation Neptune, the Flora of the Common, the Organisation of a Local Newspaper, and Aspects of the Work of a Local Authority Officer. It was also agreed that an illustrated talk on Harpenden buildings would be popular.

A summer outing to Anglesey Abbey had been proposed at the last meeting and had met with good support. A coach had been booked provisionally for Sunday, 10 July at a cost of about £1.25 per head. Particulars would be included in the June Newsletter.

4. SECRETARY'S CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Councillor Harrison outlining the present position of the inclusion of the Hyde in the Bedfordshire Structure Plan.

An invitation from Councillor Fryd to support the Jubilee Ball on 10 June.

Details of a service in St. Albans Abbey on 7 June, inviting the Society to send four members.

A questionnaire from the Civic Trust asking (a) What the Society considered its biggest achievement; (b) What environmental problem worried the Society most; (c) What environmental reform the Society would most like to see. It was decided to reply as follows:

(a) The developments at Gorselands and the sites of Rowe's and Rolt's shops in the High Street; (b) the inclusion of Hyde in the Bedfordshire Structure Plan; (c) the erosion of the Green Belt.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Harrison reported on a recent meeting of the Hyde Development Steering Committee. Individuals and public bodies would be given a further opportunity to send their objections to the Department of the Environment by 7 June. It was decided to ask Mr. Roger Evans to put forward the Society's objections. The composition of the Bedfordshire County Council had changed after the recent elections and Mr. Harrison had asked for a meeting with Mr. White, the new chairman of the Environmental Committee.

Mr. Ward reported that the "Spotlight on Leisure" exhibit had been well received at the PROBUS lunch, and ten new members had been enrolled for the Society.

Mr. Curl said that the future of Harpenden Hall would be discussed at the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the St. Albans District Council on 23 June. It was agreed that the Society should ask that a part of the building should be kept for Council offices for the convenience of Harpenden residents.

6. DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14 June at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

AGENDA for Committee Meeting on Tuesday, July 19th at 7.45 pm in
the Public Library

1. Minutes of the meeting held on June 21st
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Reports from sub groups - Commons Group

Plans Rothamsted - Mr. A. Evans.

Trees

Footpaths

Special Projects

Lea Valley

4. Future meetings
5. Secretary's correspondence
6. Any other business
7. Date of next committee meeting

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on 21 June, 1977
at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library

Present: Mrs. Russell in the chair
Mrs. Elliott, Mr. Booth, Mrs. Catterfeld, Mr. Dixon,
Mr. A. Evans, Mr. Harrison, Mrs. Johnstone, Mr. Savage,
Mr. Scowen, Miss Spurr, Mr. Ward, Mr. Weston.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Curl,
Mr. Noble and Mr. Parsons.

1. MINUTES of the last meeting held on 17 May were approved and signed, subject to amendment of item 4 under Secretary's Correspondence.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Mr. Ward reported that he had attended a meeting called by the St. Albans Road Traffic Association in conjunction with St. Albans Civic Society to discuss the City and District of St. Albans Road Options. Option 'B', put forward by the St. Albans local associations, involved Harpenden and Redbourn, and Mr. Ward was concerned that representatives of neither place had been consulted. He asked that they should be in future. Another meeting had been called for 22 June, which Mr. Ward and Mr. R. Evans or Mrs. Johnstone would attend.

3. REPORTS OF SUB-GROUPS

- (a) COMMON

Mrs. Johnstone said she had accepted an invitation to attend a meeting of the Commons Sub-Committee of the Harpenden Parish Council. She had reported that Rothamsted would supply the wood for the post outside Red Gables and would lend tools to make the holes for them. Mr. Weston suggested that an earth bank should be erected behind the posts.

Mr. Weston summarised his report to the Parish Council. The firework display on 6 June had been a great success. Plans were in hand to improve car parking in Leyton Road, opposite Bennetts. Application had been made for wayleave for a gas main to be laid from Cross Lane to Walkers Road, which would cause considerable disturbance to the Common. Posts to mark the horse rides would be made, the old elm tree outside the Cross Keys had been felled, seats in the High Street would be repaired, renovations were to be carried out to the Harpenden sign and missing chains would be replaced round the greens.

- (b) PLANS

In Mr. Noble's absence Mrs. Russell reported that he had been in touch with Mr. Reynolds, the Rothamsted architect, who said he would be pleased to discuss future developments with members of the Committee. It was decided to arrange an evening meeting at Rothamsted.

A copy of the letter written by Mr. R. Evans to the Department of the Environment expressing the Society's objections to the inclusion of Hyde in the Bedfordshire County Structure Plan was

circulated. Mr. Harrison said there was still need for great concern as the County Council had not stated officially that they would withdraw Hyde from the plan, and many members of the Council opposed the inclusion of Houghton Regis. At the public enquiry the Secretary of State would decide which items in the plan were to be discussed.

Mr. Weston expressed concern at plans for a high density development at Churchfield and would obtain further details. Residents were organising opposition and Mr. Harrison suggested that they invite a District Councillor to attend a meeting.

Concern was expressed at the sale of 1,200 acres of the Childwickbury estate, Mr. Dixon agreed to get more details and Mr. Ward would inform St. Albans Civic Society of the Society's concern.

(c) TREES

The Group had ordered a tulip tree and 2 sorbus trees for Bowers Way car park, an Irish yew for Church Green and a weeping beech for a site in the Park near the Sports Centre. Permission for planting would be sought from St. Albans District Council. The Group also proposed to replace two beech trees in Leyton Road.

(d) LEA VALLEY

Mrs. Catterfeld reported that St. George's School pupils were helping the Group in various ways.

4.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Mrs. Russell had provisionally booked a coach for the outing to Anglesey Abbey on 10 July, for which there was good support. Meetings had been arranged as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Monday, 26 September, 1977. | Talk by an architect. |
| " 12 December, 1977. | Talk on "Operation Neptune" by Mr. Squires. |
| " 13 March, 1978. | Annual General Meeting and talk on "Looking at Harpenden". |
| Wednesday, 5 April, 1978. | Annual Dinner. |
| Monday, 8 May, 1978. | to be arranged by Commons Group. |

5.

SECRETARY'S CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Mr. Pat Wilson in support of objection to Hyde Plan.

Newsletter from Herts. and Middlesex Trust for Nature Conservation.

Particulars of SAVE awards to save Britain's heritage.

An unsatisfactory reply had been received from Mr. Braddon, St. Albans City Council, to the Secretary's letter about the future of Harpenden Hall. Mrs. Elliott agreed to write again listing possible uses by local residents and stressing the importance of retaining it as an adjunct to the District Council offices in St. Albans.

5. SECRETARY'S CORRESPONDENCE (continued)

Council for the Protection of Rural England - Report
LADACAN - Notice of meeting.

HERITAGE EDUCATION -Newsletter.

Mr. and Mrs. Marr - letter of thanks for the Society's
hospitality at the Annual Dinner.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Miss Spurr reported that £75 had been donated for trees and a
further £10 had been promised.

Mr. Ward had agreed to give a talk about the Society to the
Leaside Womens' Club.

7. DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19 July
at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library.

J. W. B. McKenna, Esq.,
Chief Technical Officer,
41 Upper Lattimore Road,
ST. ALBANS,
Herts AL1 3TZ

9th August 1977

Dear Sir,

re: Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden.
Central Area Development.

We refer to the revised proposals submitted to you as the Planning Authority by Cowper Poole Reynolds and Towns, Chartered Architects 14th July 1977. They have very kindly forwarded to us copies of the drawings submitted to enable us to make observations to you relating to the proposed development. These observations are as follows :-

Please would you refer to the overall site layout dated June 1977 and headed Rothamsted Experimental Station Development Plan, Scale 1 - 500.

- 1) We understand that proposals indicated in orange and yellow on this plan will complete the development of the station, particularly to the South. We are most anxious to establish this as a condition of the consent. With this in mind we are concerned that the three service roads running North to South between the new car park and new buildings should in some way be terminated so that there is no possibility of further extensions towards the South. It would seem that the only certain way of achieving this would be to close off the end of the road by some part of the proposed new buildings, thus making it extremely awkward to develop the site further to the South at a later date.
- 2) We have received representations from an Architect who lives in the Pimlico Cottages for an amendment to the detailed layout of the computer building extension, shown on drawing 77.6/2. He has suggested that the Maintenance area at the end of the building should be moved to the other side of the staircase thus closing off the service road and breaking up the facade of the building in much the same way as has been successfully achieved with the proposed statistics computer offices. In this way the elevations would step back away from the rear of Pimlico Cottages and improve their aspect. This proposal would also provide part of a solution to 1) above. At this point the open undercroft is well into the ground and could remain in its present position, if absolutely essential.
- 3) The Society welcomes the repositioning of the proposed statistics/computer offices and is pleased to see the old statistics hut is to be demolished. To ensure that this is done could the demolition of this hut be a condition of the Planning Consent.
- 4) We would ask that the huge new car park to the South West of the site be screened by planting and broken up by more planting across its width (like the Stanborough Lido parking) and by sinking the car park still further into the ground. We would ask that details of the planting, screening the car park be submitted and approved by your Council, and if possible be planted before the development proceeds. We appreciate that there is a risk that this planting could be damaged by the building operation, but we feel that it would be possible

/Over....

9th August 1977

to adequately protect the planting against that. We consider it most important that the planting is well established by the time the development nears completion.

5) We understand that some difficulties and disagreements have arisen over the existing planting and that some trees had to be removed. We would ask that you as the Local Authority should establish and recommend the type of trees that should be planted and that in this matter your decision should be final. As a Society we should be happy to give any advice and support that you consider is needed.

Finally, we should like you to know that we are most appreciative of the way the Architects and Management of Rothamsted Experimental Station have given us the opportunity to comment on their proposals and we are greatly encouraged by the changes they have been able to make to their original submission and for our part we are keen to assist them in every way to reach a satisfactory development plan.

Yours faithfully,

Anthony Evans

For and on behalf of the
Harpenden Society.

21 East Common,
Harpenden, Herts.

c.c. Cowper Poole Reynolds & Towns
c.c. Mrs Anne Russell

ST. ALBANS DISTRICT COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATIONS REGISTERED WEEK ENDING 5.8.77

REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION, LOCATION, APPLICANT	
5/0812/77 NORTH HARPENDEN	TEMPORARY (3YEARS) CHANGE OF USE TO ESTATE AGENTS OFFICE, 1 PITTOTSHILL LANE, HARPENDEN (CONNELLS, MANDLEY & SPARROW)	
5/0813/77 WEST ST. STEPHEN	SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION, 56 ROWLATT DRIVE, ST. ALBANS (B. COLEMAN)	
5/0814/77 NORTH HARPENDEN	LOFT CONVERSION, 10 DALKEITH ROAD HARPENDEN (M. RICHARDSON)	
5/0815/77 WEST	TEMPORARY COVER OVER SHOP YARD 47 CATHERINE STREET, ST. ALBANS (T. SHATTOCK)	A
5/0816/77 NORTH W'HAMPSTEAD	2 STOREY EXTENSION. INTERNAL ALTERATIONS & GARAGE EXTENSION, 32 GARRARD WAY, WHEATHAMPSTEAD (P.R. WALSH)	
5/0817/77 WEST	OUTLINE APPLICATION TO ERECT 2 DETACHED OR SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOWS TO REPLACE EXISTING BUNGALOW 32 BUCKNALLS DRIVE, BRICKET WOOD (R.A. HART)	
5/0818/77 NORTH HARPENDEN	3 DETACHED HOUSES (DETAILS FOLLOWING OUTLINE 5/1050/75) PLOTS 10, 11 AND 14 OFF HAWSLEY ROAD, HARPENDEN (VIEARNA LTD)	
5/0819/77 WEST	ADDITIONAL STORAGE TANK FOR STORAGE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, PETROPOLIS SELF SERVICE STATION VERULAM ROAD/FOLLY LANE ST. ALBANS (TOTAL OIL (G.B.) LTD.)	A
5/0820/77CC EAST LONDON COLNEY	RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT (OUTLINE) ST. ANNES ROAD, LONDON COLNEY (POLICE COMMITTEE H.C.C.)	
5/0821/77 WEST ST. STEPHEN	NEW DORMER WINDOW - BATHROOM & BEDROOM CONVERSION, 50 JENKINS AVENUE, BRICKET WOOD (H.J. GIRDWOOD)	
5/0822/77 EAST	DOUBLE GARAGE (TO REAR OF PROPERTY) 38 MARSHALS DRIVE, ST. ALBANS (G.A. THOMAS)	
5/0823/77DC WEST	CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD AND SERVICES PREPARATORY TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN RESPECT OF AREAS 1 AND 7 ON ATTACHED PLAN, ST. ALBANS GAS WORKS SITE, EYWOOD ROAD, ST. ALBANS (PRINCIPAL ESTATES OFFICER, SADC)	RD CLA RD 23/77
5/0824/77 NORTH HARPENDEN	TEMPORARY PERMISSION (FOR A PERIOD OF 10 YRS) TO USE THE PROPERTY FOR THE STORAGE OF COMPUTERS, EX SORTING OFFICE 110 LUTON ROAD, HARPENDEN (DATA 100 SYSTEMS LTD)	
5/0825/77 WEST	PRE FABRICATED SINGLE STOREY BUILDING FOR USE AS AN OIL STORAGE GROUP VI INDUSTRIAL 224 LONDON ROAD, ST. ALBANS (PASTA FOODS LTD)	
5/0826/77 WEST	SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION, 6 THE PASTURES, ST. ALBANS (L. DENHOLM)	
5/0827/77 EAST	CARPORT, 11 HOMEWOOD ROAD, ST. ALBANS (MR. BOKMANS)	
5/0828/77 EAST	REAR EXTENSION & STORM PORCH, SINGLE STOREY, 38 RODNEY AVENUE, ST. ALBANS (E. FARMER)	

5/0829/77
WEST

OFFICES & FLATS (FOR PROPOSED SHOPPING
CENTRE MANAGER & ASSISTANT MANAGER)
9 LONDON ROAD, ST. ALBANS (SAMUEL
PROPERTIES (ST. ALBANS) LTD.

5/0830/77
WEST

ERECTION OF TEMPORARY OFFICE BUILDING &
CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY ACCESS ROAD
& PARKING AREA, 128-144 VICTORIA STREET
ST. ALBANS (FINLINSON PROPERTIES LTD)

5/0831/77
EAST

SOCIAL CENTRE (RENEWAL OF PLANNING
PERMISSION) W/3296/72 20723
9 CAMP ROAD, ST. ALBANS (EEB)

5/0832/77
EAST

OFFICE BUILDING (PERMANENT RENEWAL
OF PLANNING PERMISSION W/3239/72
23108) CAMP ROAD, ST. ALBANS (EEB)

5/063A/77
NORTH
HARPENDEN

WHITE PANEL SIGNWRITTEN IN BLUE
66 HIGH STREET, HARPENDEN
(J.D. WOOD)

C
L

A - ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST
C - CONSERVATION AREA
L - LISTED BUILDING
RD - RELEVANT DEVELOPMENT

? Civic Trust News

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

AGENDA for Committee Meeting on Tuesday Sept. 13 at 7.45 pm in
the Public Library

1. Minutes of the meeting held on July 19

2. Matters arising from the minutes.

3. Reports from sub groups - Commons Group

Plans

Trees

Footpaths

Special Projects Award Scheme. Paul Usher.

Lea Valley + Plants - Tree Nursery / Group Organiser

+ John Singer Nigel Harper -
Riviera walls + Hill Meads

Robert Lawrence L. Hager

[Pinner's Meadow]

4. Future meetings

5. Secretary's correspondence

6. Any other business

7. Date of next committee meeting ⊕

Robert Usher - Foulness

⊕ Anne Bunnell, Hector C, Pat W H. H. H. H.

- 19 Douglas Rd/S. M. H. C.

[Mid. Nov. N-L (L.V.)]

Mon 8. May Sat. May?

Best conversion

? Best new development

? Best maintained built

Annex ? N-L
LV ? Trees/planting
? Re-appraisal (Nigel Hoyer)

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on 19 July, 1977
at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library

Present: Mrs. Russell in the chair
Mrs. Elliott, Mr. Curl, Mr. A. Evans, Mrs. Johnstone,
Mr. Rees, Mr. Scowen, Miss Spurr, Mr. Ward, Mr. Weston
Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Booth,
Mrs. Catterfeld, and Mr. Harrison

Mr. B. Rees was welcomed as a new member of the Committee.

The Chairman announced with regret the resignation of
Mr. R. Evans, and it was agreed that the Secretary should
write thanking him for his services to the Society. Mr. Evans
would continue to represent the Society on the Hyde issue,
and to help with any particular project.

MINUTES of the last meeting held on 21 June were approved and
signed.

MATTERS ARISING

Mrs. Russell reported that the outing to Anglesey Abbey on
10 July had been very successful.

Mr. Ward had attended a meeting called by St. Albans Road
Consultative Group and reported that the general opinion was
in favour of Option B, which provided more flexibility for
traffic diversion. An enquiry would be held in the autumn.

REPORTS OF SUB-GROUPS

COMMON

Mrs. Johnstone reported that posts had been erected outside
Rothamsted to prevent car parking on West Common. Much help
had been received from Mr. W. Barnes, Miss M. Pratt and
Miss J. Thurston, and the Secretary was asked to send them
letters of thanks.

Mrs. Johnstone expressed concern at the state of the Common on
the South side of the junction of West Common and Redbourn Lane.
Garden rubbish was regularly dumped under the trees, many of
which were dying. It was agreed that she should write to
Mr. Jarvis asking that the dead trees should be felled. The
Committee felt concern at the dumping of garden rubbish in many
parts of Harpenden and Mrs. Russell agreed to ask Mr. Parsons to
raise the matter with the Parish Council.

PLANS

Revised plans for extensions at Rothamsted had been received and
were exhibited. In general it was agreed that the architect had
tried to meet the objections to the earlier plans but the Committee
felt strongly that the enlarged car park should be screened by
trees. Mr. A. Evans was asked to convey the Committee's views
to the architect.

Mr. Weston had obtained details of the proposed development at
Churchfield. The Committee felt that the units were of too high
a density and the site unsuitable.

A proposal to build six flats on a site at the junction of Crabtree Lane and Milton Road was deplored by the Committee as it would add further hazards to an already dangerous crossroads.

Mrs. Russell was asked to convey the Committee's objections to the above two proposals to St. Albans District Council.

Mr. Weston reported that there was a proposal to use land owned by the County Council at Somerled, Townsend Lane for residential development. It had been proposed previously that this land should be used as an open space and the Committee agreed that they should press for this use of the land.

Mrs. Elliott read Mr. Braddon's reply to the Society's proposals for the future use of Harpenden Hall, all of which he had refuted. However, Mr. Curl reported that a proposal to retain the front part of the building for Harpenden's use and to let the back part as offices was being considered by the District Council.

Mr. P. Wilson had written suggesting that a recent legacy to Harpenden Parish Council should be used to start a fund to keep Harpenden Hall for local use, but the Committee did not think the money should be used in this way.

Mrs. Russell reported that permission had been refused to use land in Leyton Road for the storage of motor vehicles.

(c) TREES

The Committee noted with regret that more trees in Harpenden were dying including the elm outside Woolworths in the High Street, and Mr. A. Evans' suggestion that part of the legacy mentioned above should be spent on replacing them was approved. Mr. Evans agreed to write to the Parish Council putting forward the proposal and suggesting that semi-mature trees should be planted.

4. FUTURE MEETINGS

Mr. Ward felt that the September meeting should be devoted to a subject of concern to the Society, and it was agreed to hold an Open Forum inviting questions from members on the following:

- The Hyde proposal
- The use of the £5,000 bequest to the Parish Council
- The future of Harpenden Hall
- The Society's Award Scheme

Members of the Committee were asked to suggest a title for the Forum which would be publicised in the Newsletter. This would also have a tear-off slip so that members could propose recipients for awards under the Society's Award Scheme.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. J. Pybus, Principal Planning Officer, St. Albans District Council, saying the plans for the football clubhouse and car park at Cravells Road were now available.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Much concern was felt at the use of Cravells Road by heavy goods vehicles, and it was agreed that the Secretary should write to St. Albans District Council asking for an examination of a traffic management scheme for the road.

Mr. Ward reported that he had given a talk about the Society to a very interested audience at Leaside Womens' Club. The Club had kindly given a donation to the Society and a new Member was enrolled. Mr. Ward felt that there was great interest in the Society and talks on its work would gain new members. Mr. Meadows could be asked to provide photographs of current interest.

Miss Spurr reported that the 1,000th member of the Society had just been enrolled.

7. DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday, 13 September, 1977 at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

AGENDA for Committee Meeting on Tuesday Oct 18 at 7.45 pm in
the Public Library

1. Minutes of the meeting held on Sept 13
2. Matters arising from the minutes. Report on Forum J.D.R.
3. Reports from sub groups - Commons Group

Plans

Trees

Footpaths

Special Projects

Lea Valley

4. Future meetings
5. Secretary's correspondence
6. Any other business
7. Date of next committee meeting

[Has. last? HCC Consultant Architects
Agm Slides to read in towards

- Forum Committee
- Minutes of LHS proposals 'Museum'
- Stage, Use + Exhibit
- Local bequests Devering

- Min Horsley 67 High St.

- Har. Cons. Area? (Paul Arnold)

Peter Doffen

Russ. Craig - Designation County Hall ? Rural Cons. Area
C.P.O. 0992 54242

? Reappraisal

- Piggott Hill (farm) lane: bringing site boundary (chain link) ? Planting Slugs.
? site further E 2 going for danger area in hedge.

- N-L : deadline : numbers ? Circulate
+ ORV list

650 pre Dec 12

- Har Hall + use of rooms for L.H.S. : Mjoti in Har. Soc.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on 13 September, 1977
at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library

Present: Mrs. Russell in the chair
Mr. A. Evans, Mr. Harrison, Mrs. Johnstone, Mr. Rees,
Mr. Scowen, Miss Spurr, Mr. Usher, Mr. Ward, Mr. Weston,
Mr. Wilson.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Elliott
and Mr. Parsons.

1. MINUTES of the last meeting held on 19 July were approved and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Mrs. Russell reported that she had had no reply to her letter to St. Albans District Council objecting to proposals for building developments at Churchfield and at the junction of Crabtree Lane and Milton Road.

3. REPORTS OF SUB-GROUPS

- (a) COMMON

Mrs. Johnstone reported that Mr. Arnold had agreed to inspect the area at the corner of West Common and Redbourn Lane where trees were dying and rubbish was being dumped. After consulting Mr. Pettingale, he would let her know what action was proposed.

- (b) TREES

Mrs. Russell read a letter she had received from the Manager of Parks and Open Spaces, St. Albans District Council, in which he said that the Society would qualify for inclusion in the Queen's Tree Scheme. He said he was reserving his opinion on the trees proposed for planting in Bowers Way, and would get in touch later about replacing the elms in the High Street when the full effect of the Dutch elm disease was apparent.

The Tree Group would be responsible for the autumn planting but would need help. Mrs. Russell agreed to approach Harpenden Round Table, the Adventure Scouts and Mr. Arnold. Several schools had volunteered to look after the trees when planted, and these would be approached later.

- (c) SPECIAL PROJECTS

Mr. Usher, who would speak on the subject of the Society's Award Scheme at the Forum on 26 September, asked for the Committee's decision on one or two points. It was agreed to keep the scheme fairly fluid this year and to award a plaque suitable for fixing to the building, for the best new or reconstructed building, and a certificate for the most attractively maintained building.

Mr. Usher agreed to obtain particulars and the price of a suitable plaque.

3. (d) LEA VALLEY GROUP

In Mrs. Catterfeld's absence Mr. Wilson reported that the Group would need help this autumn to move trees from its nursery, and it was agreed that an approach should be made to Rothamsted. It was felt that ~~help~~^{advice} and support from statutory bodies would be very helpful to the voluntary groups, and a representative from the group would attend a meeting of the Countryside Officers of Herts. and Beds., Mr. R. Watts, who was responsible for the co-ordination of the Lea Valley Groups, the Lea Valley Ranger and representatives of District Councils. Mrs. Russell also agreed to attend.

(e) PLANS

Mr. A. Evans reported that the plans for the Harpenden Rovers Pavilion had been approved as a club house. The Committee felt that in the lease its use should be restricted to changing rooms, as originally proposed, that access to the building and car park should only be allowed when matches or practice games were in progress and that no licence should be granted. Mrs. Russell agreed to write to the Parish Council stressing these points.

Mr. Harrison reported that he had attended a meeting at Luton Airport with members of Luton Borough Council to discuss the proposed Hyde development and the expansion of the airport. He had received the Council's assurance that owing to lack of growth of population, Hyde would now be deleted from the proposed County Structure Plan. This could be done before the public enquiry if the Department of the Environment accepted Bedfordshire County Council's request for its deletion. The request had been sent, but if written confirmation of the deletion of Hyde from the plan was not received before the enquiry, the Society would need to attend. Mrs. Russell said that brother, a Q.C., had very kindly agreed to represent the Society at the public enquiry if necessary.

Mr. Harrison said the present airport was considered adequate for the handling of up to 5 million passengers^{a year}. If the British Airport Authority took it over, Luton Borough Council would cease to have control of its development.

4. FUTURE MEETINGS

A Harpenden Forum would be held on 26 September, when a Panel would answer questions on such subjects as "The Hyde, Our Dying Elms, Harpenden Hall and the St. Albans Road Options".

On 12 December Mr. Squires would talk on the National Trust's "Operation Neptune".

5. Date of next Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday, 18 October, 1977 at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

AGENDA for Committee Meeting on *Tuesday: Nov. 15* at 7.45 pm in
the Public Library

1. Minutes of the meeting held on *Oct. 18*
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Reports from sub groups - Commons Group

Plans

Trees

Footpaths

Special Projects

Lea Valley

4. Future meetings
5. Secretary's correspondence
6. Any other business
7. Date of next committee meeting

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on 18 October, 1977
at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library

Present: Mrs. Russell in the chair
Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Catterfeld, Mr. A. Evans,
Mrs. Johnstone, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Rees, Mr. Scowen,
Miss Spurr, Mr. Ward, Mr. Wilson (part-time)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Harrison
and Mr. Weston.

1. MINUTES of the last meeting held on 13 September were approved
and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Mrs. Russell reported that the Parish Council had noted the
Society's comments on the football pavilion and would consider
them at their next meeting.

Mrs. Elliott said the Forum held on 26 September had been very
well attended. Mr. Paul Usher had spoken on "The Society's Award
Scheme", Mr. Roger Evans on "Development at the Hyde", Miss Joan
Thurston on "The Common", Mr. Michael Harrison on "The Future of
Harpenden Hall", and Mr. Colin Curl on "The St. Albans Road Scheme"
and "The elms in the High Street".

3. REPORTS FROM SUB-GROUPS

- (a) COMMON

Mrs. Johnstone reported that Mr. J. C. Ottaway was very concerned
about the unkempt state of the triangular area of the Common at
the junction of East Common and Limbrick Road. He had written to
the Parish Council but had received no reply and asked for the
Society's help. He had also collected money from nearby residents
to buy trees. Mrs. Elliott agreed to discuss the matter with
Mrs. Curl, Chairman of the Commons Committee of the Parish Council.

Mrs. Russell said she would remind Mr. Pettingale about the markers
for the horse rides which were not yet in place.

- (b) PLANS

Mr. A. Evans reported that the Society's comments on the plans for
extensions at Rothamsted had unfortunately been interpreted as a
stronger objection than was intended. It was felt that the Archite
had done his best to take the Society's suggestions into account, a
Mr. Evans agreed to write again.

Miss Spurr commented on the proposed re-development at the Southdow
Trading Estate. It was agreed that the access road would prove
inadequate for increased traffic and Mr. Rees was asked to inform
the District Council.

Mrs. Russell said that her brother, who had kindly offered to
represent the Society if a public enquiry was held on the Hyde,
would shortly inspect the site.

3. (c) TREES

Mr. Scowen reported that Mr. Arnold recommended that the Society should join the Queen's Tree Scheme, and Mrs. Elliott was asked to enquire about membership.

Mrs. Elliott read a letter from Mrs. Curl, Chairman of the Commons Committee of the Parish Council, asking for the Society's plans for tree planting. Mrs. Elliott agreed to see Mrs. Curl and give her full details.

Mrs. Russell had approached the Adventure Scouts, who had kindly offered to help with planting on the weekends of 26 November and 3 December. It was decided to organise the planting for these dates. In the meantime wire tree guards would be ordered.

Mr. Ward reported that a large number of dead elms had been felled along Cross Lane and by the side of Jockey Meadow. He felt the Council should be asked to replant and Mrs. Elliott agreed to report the matter to Mrs. Curl.

Miss Spurr suggested that an Indian Chestnut should be planted to replace the elm outside the Cross Keys.

(d) SPECIAL PROJECTS

Mrs. Russell reported that Mr. Usher had obtained details of plaques suitable for the Society's Award Scheme, and it was agreed that he should be asked to design and order a plaque up to the value of £25.

(e) LEA VALLEY

Mrs. Catterfield reported that the Group had asked the County Landscape Planning Officer for advice on improving the appearance of the factories in Coldharbour Lane, and awaited his reply.

The Group had entered a competition sponsored by Shell (U.K.) and the Inland Waterways Association in the section for the improvement and enhancement of waterway environment.

4. FUTURE MEETINGS

On 12 December Mr. Squires would speak on the National Trust's "Operation Neptune". Mincepies and punch would be served.

After the Annual General Meeting on 13 March, 1978, it was decided to ask members of the Selection Panel to talk on the Society's Award Scheme, and suitable slides would be shown.

A decision on holding an Annual Dinner in 1978 had not yet been taken and members would be asked for their opinion at the December meeting.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Lorna Wang had written to say she could never attend the Society's meetings on Mondays, and asked if they could sometimes be held on another day. This would be borne in mind in fixing next year's meetings.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A letter was read from Mr. J. C. Ottaway to Mr. McKenna, St. Albans District Council, deploring the state of Southdown car park. Although written on 7 September, he had received no reply, and it was agreed that Mrs. Elliott should write supporting Mr. Ottaway's complaints and asking the present position of the plans for the re-development of the Southdown shopping area.

Following the discussion at the Forum on 26 September, Mr. Wilson said he felt there was a need to advocate much more strongly that the future use of Harpenden Hall should provide for the various needs of Harpenden people and should include space to store and display documents and objects of historic interest. He agreed to forward the Society's suggestions to the District and Parish Councils.

Mrs. Russell reported that she might be asked to speak on the subject of the Harpenden Society in a recording shortly to be made for the BBC "Down your way" programme.

7. DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday, 15 November, 1977 at 7.45 p.m. in the Public Library.