

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday, 15 February 1983 at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Mr. N. Fowlesland in the Chair
Lady Bawden, Mr. & Mrs. J. Bush, Mr. S. Gaubert, Mrs. A. Godfrey,
Mr. I. McNicol, Mrs. P. Morwood, Mr. L. Pepper, Mr. E. Truslove,
Mrs. L. Wang and Mr. E. Ward.

Apologies for absence received from Mr. V. Clough, Mr. R. Dixon,
Mr. K. Jennings and Mr. P. Wilson.

ACTION

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 13 January were agreed, subject to the following amendments:-

Commons & Greens - Proposed Exercise Track, page 4, second sentence. Delete "Their recommendation" and insert "The recommendation of this Committee is that"

2. MATTERS ARISING

1. A1031. The Secretary had contacted Cllr. Slater, Town Council. The Council were still hoping that Rothamsted would assist. The cutting back of the scrub will be undertaken later in the year.

2. U.L.V.G. - Surplus Trees. Mr. Henden had not yet contacted the Secretary as to the variety available.

3. Harpenden Station. A reply dated 10 February had been received by the Chairman to his letter to British Rail stating that no decision has yet been taken on the improvements. Copy of the correspondence to Harpenden Town Council.

N.P.

4. Exercise Track. Subject to approval of their Commons & Greens Sub-Committee on the equipment, the Town Council approved the plan, although the Rotary Club have not confirmed that the work will proceed. Residents on East Common have objected to the siting of the equipment.

Lady Bawden tabled a letter she had sent to the Town Council listing objections. The Chairman would write to the Town Council referring to the letter and emphasising the Committee's concern that the track would cross Walkers Road (twice). A pilot scheme erecting 2/3 pieces of equipment had been suggested. There could be a problem with horses using the equipment as jumps.

N.P.

Lady Bawden would attend the Town Council's Commons & Greens Sub-Committee.

Lady Bawden

5. Southdown - Cravells Road Car Park/Landscaping. In reply to the Chairman's letter the Chairman of the District Council's Highways Committee said it was unlikely that the work would commence this year, the project being of low priority. His Committee were still looking at ways of achieving the work i.e. contribution from the Town Council.

ACTION

Mr. Ward to approach Cllr. Curl.

E.W.

Work had commenced on the re-aligning of the kerb/lay-by in preparation for the pedestrian crossing.

6. Akrill House. Mrs. Godfrey had written to the Press, the builder (Tomblin), Town and District Councils about the removed turret, with no response. The item in the Newsletter had resulted in one reply.

7. Gypsy Sites. Mrs. Ross did not attend the meeting on gypsy sites. Grange Court Residents had objected as they thought site would abut Cross Lane. No reply from District Council. Mr. Bush would contact District Council for full details i.e. exact location, size - for consideration.

J.B.

3. BEAUTIFUL BRITAIN YEAR 1983

Suggestions had been received by the Secretary and he would maintain a list. An amended leaflet with possible activities was circulated to the Committee. No response from Town Council. To be discussed at the next meeting.

J.B.

4. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, HARPENDEN TOWN COUNCIL - 23 MARCH 1983

The Secretary proposed that Mrs. Wang represent the Society. The matters to be raised were as follows, but it was hoped other members of the Society would undertake to speak on some of them.

L.W.

Exercise Track; Gypsy site; Beautiful Britain Year 1983;
Harpenden Lodge; Green Lawns - Harpenden Station.
parking;

5. CYCLEWAY

Mr. Pepper would write to County Surveyor for the findings of the County Highways Committee for report to the next meeting.

L.P.

6. NEWSLETTER - PRINTING COST

Resources Centre - 2 sheets (4 sides) Newsletter and letter A4 printed one side £39 (previously £13).

Alternative quotation (Mr. Ward) £51 (900 copies).

Civic Society, St. Albans A3 £36.58 (500 copies).

It was agreed to continue to use the Resources Centre for the time being.

7. COPY/DUPLICATING

There have been "time" difficulties in the producing of the Society's agendas etc. and the Committee authorised the Secretary to investigate the purchase of a small copying machine.

J.B.

ACTION

8. NEWSLETTER

Material required by Secretary for 7 March 1983. Difficulty was being experienced in tracing the early minute books of the Society and an appeal would be placed in the Newsletter.

J.B.

9. CHEESE & WINE PARTY

Mr. Pepper would approach Jill Kelly to give a short entertainment at the Cheese & Wine Party. The Sub-Committee recommended the price of tickets to be £2.25 and this was agreed.

10. SPOTLIGHT ON LEISURE

Sub-Committee - J. Bush, V. Clough, Mrs. A. Godfrey,
E. Truslove, Mrs. L. Wang, E. Ward

Exhibits - A1031 Cycleway - Mr. Pepper

"Before" and "after" Work Parties
(photographs) - E. Meadows

Akrill House (photographs) - E. Meadows

Southdown (photographs) - E. Meadows

~~Material held by Lady Bawden (See A10.B.)
Meeting 15 February 1983~~

Extension of Conservation Area

Award (if any) - photographs - E. Meadows

11. ANSCOMBES

Local History Society have written John Lewis Partnership questioning another supermarket in the town. Chairman also to write giving opinion of Society and residents.

N.P.

12. REPORTS FROM STANDING SUB-COMMITTEES

1. Schools. No report.

2. Transport. No further report - see Minute 5.

3. Flans.

The following were reported on:-

5/083A/82 South Harpenden Cars - Illuminated Box Sign.

5/0054/82 South Harpenden Cars, 92 Southdown Road -
Change of use.

5/086A/82 49 High Street (Threshers) - 2 illuminated
panels.

5/0127/82 Jarvis (Harpenden) Ltd., 23 Vaughan Road -
Demolition of Auction Rooms.

AUCTION

5/0112/82 (Outline) Roundwood Service Station - 3 Nos.
work space units.

Appeal 5/0932/82 Claridge & Hall Bros. Ltd., 20 Station Road
- Change of use.

4. Commons & Greens. The Group were concerned about the availability of the byelaws and limitations for the Common. Lady Bawden would raise this at the Town Council's Commons & Greens Sub-Committee. No reply received from District Council on the cleaning of the ponds.

Lady Bawden

5. U.L.V.G. Trees etc. cut back on the old railway track near Beeching Close. 8/9 January holly bushes planted corner of car park junction Station Road/Marquis Lane.

13. MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTIONS 1983

Paid	422
Unpaid	290
Banking Order Queries	6
	<hr/>
	718

14. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer submitted his ^{un}audited account for the past year (copy circulated).

I.M.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Annual General Meeting - 1 March 1983. The Chairman announced that he would not be standing for office this year, or serving as a member of the Committee. Mr. K. Jennings had agreed to stand for election as Chairman. After three years Mrs. Wang and Lady Bawden having served the statutory period would be resigning. Two nominations received were Mr. S. Bastow and Mr. J. Holderness. The Committee recorded its appreciation and thanks for all the support and hard work undertaken by the Chairman, Mrs. Wang and Lady Bawden.

Aerial Maps. The Committee agreed to the purchase of 10 aerial maps for present and future use at a cost of approximately £35-£40.

I.M.

Roundwood Ladies Club. Lady Bawden had given a talk to this Club and received a cheque for £10 for the Society's funds.

I.M.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 29 March 1983

[Handwritten signature]
29/3/83

Master Copy

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 1 March 1983 at 8.00 p.m. in the Small Public Hall.

The President, His Honour Judge Dow, took the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES: Dr. F. Joan Moore and Mr. S. Gaubert.
2. MINUTES: The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3 March 1982 were read by the Secretary, Mr. Jack Bush, and approved.
3. MATTERS ARISING:

Chairman's Report. Cllr. Mrs. Curl confirmed that decorative hanging baskets were already in Southdown. The Town Council had in mind to provide additional baskets if suitable "hanging places" could be found.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

The Chairman extended a welcome to those present and gave a resumé of the activities of the Society during the past year.

Once again the Society had been represented at the Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition and later in the year, during May, held their Cheese and Wine Party, which was an enormous success.

Meetings. The Chairman described the meetings which had taken place during the past session:-

September - Mr. Paul Arnold, Arborist, St. Albans District Council - Ornamental Trees.
October - Mr. Paul Camp - Childwickbury.
December - Mr. Jim Jarvis - Memories of Harpenden with slides.
February - Mr. Russell Craig, Herts. County Council - Historic Buildings with slides.

All these meetings were enjoyable and well attended, especially the December one at which the traditional punch and mince pies were served.

Projects. There have not been any new projects undertaken during the year, but the Society is still "plugging away" at those already existing. Progress in Southdown was proceeding but not as fast as the Society would like. Cravells Road car park spoils and detracts from the area.

Some progress had been made with the Nicky Line, but unfortunately there was nothing conclusive to report. The public, in general, would like to see this as a public footpath, and it seems likely that this will happen.

The Upper Lea Valley Group have continued their excellent work.

As to Harpenden Station, a year later no progress has taken place. Recently the Society received a letter from British Rail stating that they have not come to a decision, but agreed the Station buildings were not up to standard. Recently, a Portacabin booking office appeared at the Station - an ominous sign for the existing buildings.

Much work has been undertaken in exploring the possibility of a safe cycleway between Harpenden and St. Albans and the Society will continue to press for the cycleway in the coming year.

A watchful eye is being kept on Harpenden Lodge as the Society is anxious that it should remain an asset to the town.

As reported in the Press, the Anscombes store site has been purchased by John Lewis Partnership for use as a Waitrose Supermarket. The closing of the Store was a great loss to the town and the Society had approached John Lewis as to inclusion of a haberdashery department, but they stated that a mixed unit has not in the past been found satisfactory.

The Society was well represented at the District Inquiry, and our representations met with a sympathetic hearing. The Inspector has not yet made his report.

Committee and Officers. The Chairman announced that, after serving the Society as Committee member, Treasurer and then Chairman altogether for a number of years, he now wished to stand down.

Beryl Stuart, secretary, had resigned as she had moved from the district and Jack Bush has now stepped into the breach.

Christine Withers, who helped in compiling the Newsletter, Bob Raw and Mary Turner had all resigned for personal reasons.

Lorna Wang and Lady Marjorie Bawden have resigned under the 3-year rule of the Society. Lorna Wang was extremely thorough and professional, and the Society owes her a very great debt for the work she has done and Lady Bawden brings an enormous knowledge of Harpenden and the Common. The Chairman was pleased to say that both ladies would continue to be involved in the activities of the Society.

The Chairman stated that it was gratifying to be able to report an increase in funds and members since he first joined the Committee. The Society's present membership was about 800 and with the help of members perhaps we could reach the figure of 1,000.

The Chairman thanked the Committee for all the work they had done in the past year and His Honour Judge Dow for presiding at the meeting.

The President thanked the retiring Chairman for his interesting report on the Society's activities during the year and for his very great contribution to the work of the Society.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT:

A copy of the audited accounts for 1982 were distributed to members. At year ending 31 December 1982 the Society had funds of £1,739, an increase of £555. Interest earnings were in line with those of the previous year.

With the increased 1982 subscriptions total income amounted to £1,480, compared with £1,190 for 1981.

Office expenses, postage etc. amounted to £256.

No major expenditure had been undertaken this year, but £100 had been contributed towards the Notice Board for display of the Common byelaws and £50 donated to St. Nicholas School.

The balance of £1,700 places the Society in a strong position to provide financial help in conservation projects in 1983.

The Treasurer recorded his thanks to Mrs. S. Bush for her work in the collecting of subscriptions.

The report was approved by the meeting.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The following were nominated and elected:-

Mr. Keith Jenkins - Chairman
Mrs. A. Godfrey - Vice-Chairman
Mr. I. McNicol - Treasurer
Mr. J. Bush - Secretary.

7. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

The following previously elected members remain on the Committee:-

Mrs. S.R. Bush
Mr. R.G. Dixon
Mr. S. Gaubert
Mrs. P. Morwood
Mr. L.G. Pepper.

The following members were nominated, seconded and elected:-

Mr. V.M. Clough - Previously co-opted
Mr. E.H. Truslove - previously co-opted
Mr. S. Bastow
Mr. J.A. Holderness
Dr. F. Joan Moore.

Thanks were recorded to Mr. I. McNicol Treasurer, Mr. R. Barnes, Honorary Auditor and Mrs. P. Morwood Minute Secretary.

8. SOCIETY'S AWARD:

The President requested Mr. Ted Ward to address the meeting on the entries for this year's Award. Projects nominated by members and considered were:-

The Borodale development in Kirkwick Avenue, additions and renovations to St. Nicholas School, Parkinson House in Vaughan Road, the illumination of the Church Tower, the Southdown Green and the Murphy's restaurant complex. The select sub-committee inspected all of these, but the latter three were eliminated on the grounds that they had not been completed in 1982, but would be eligible for reconsideration next year. From the first three, Parkinson House was judged the winner and the presentation of a plaque would be made at the Cheese and Wine Party.

9. FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

Cheese and Wine Party - 10 May 1982. Tickets will be on sale at the Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition. Any help members could give to assist at this function would be appreciated.

Spotlight on Leisure. Mr. Jack Bush confirmed the arrangements for the Society's stand, but members should note that this would be on the opposite side of the Hall from its former position.

Work Parties. Mrs. Lorna Wang would be starting with the Work Parties shortly and interested members should contact her at the close of the meeting.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. I. Leckie enquired as to the proposed exercise track on the Common. The Chairman gave the views the Society had expressed, in the main that the track would best be positioned in the Park, but this did not have the approval of the District Council. The Society were not in favour of the proposed route on the Common and Lady Bawden said she felt there was a danger in the track crossing a busy road. Cllr. Mrs. Stella Curl, Chairman, Harpenden Town Council told the meeting that it was unfortunate that the word "track" had been introduced since it was not intended to be a track, but rather a series of items of equipment in positions which it was considered would not give rise to nuisance, but the Council would be happy to receive any further written objections.

After the business part of the meeting a Civic Film entitled "A future for the past" was shown and thoroughly enjoyed.

11. DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Tuesday, 20 March 1984 at 8.00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A. Lee', is written across the lower half of the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY.

Notice of Committee meeting to be held at Harpenden Hall on Tuesday 29th
March at 7.45 p.m.

AGENDA.

1. To introduce the new members of the Committee.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of last meeting.
4. Matters arising.
5. Formation of Groups.
6. Any other business.
7. Date of next meeting.

Note. In order to leave as much time as possible for the task of forming our Groups for the coming year, the routine items have been omitted from this Agenda, Any important matters which require immediate consideration can be brought up under "any other business."

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. B. Smith', is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday, 29 March 1983 at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Mr. K. Jennings in the Chair
Mr. S. Bastow, Mr. & Mrs. J. Bush, Mr. S. Gaubert, Mrs. A. Godfrey,
Mr. J.A. Holderness, Mr. I. McNicoll, Dr. F.J. Moore,
Mrs. P. Morwood, Mr. L. Pepper, Mr. E. Truslove and Mr. E. Ward.

The Chairman effected the introduction of the 3 new committee members.

Apologies for absence received from Mr. V. Clough and Mr. P. Wilson.

ACTION

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 15 February were agreed subject to the following amendments:-

Spotlight on Leisure - Exhibits. Material held by Lady Bawden to be exhibited at Local History Society - The History of the Harpenden Society not at the Spotlight on Leisure.

Treasurer's Report. "The Treasurer submitted his unaudited account".

2. MATTERS ARISING

1. Exercise Track. At the Town Council meeting yesterday evening, the Chairman again put forward the Society's view that the track should be sited in Rothamsted Park. However, the track, as proposed will go ahead but the Council adhere to their view that it does not constitute a track. Councillor Slater said the Council would have no control if sited in Rothamsted Park. Similar equipment would be on both sides of Walkers Road, and it would not be absolutely necessary to cross the road. The Chairman would try to contact members of the Rotary Club.

K.J.

2. Akrill House. Mrs. Godfrey enquired whether the Committee wished her to pursue the correspondence with the builder from whom no reply had been received. The Secretary said he had had adverse comments at the Spotlight on Leisure. It was felt the Committee could not achieve more, but there was a principle involved.

3. Gypsy Sites. A letter had been received from the District Council that no decision had been taken. It was possible that the Ayres End site would not be approved. Other sites could be Redbourn Station, Depot Sandridge, London Colney.

4. Beautiful Britain Year 1983. The Secretary to contact Town Council. To be discussed at the next meeting.

J.B.

5. Cheese & Wine Party. Arrangements were in hand and complimentary tickets sent out. The Secretary agreed to act as host to guests and introduce them to the Judge.

J.B.

Mr. Gaubert asked for prizes for the raffle.

S.G.

Representatives from the Herts. Advertiser and Review would be invited.

ACTION

Mr. Ward would provide name tags/labels for identification of officers and members of the Committee.

Jill Kelly would be away but a male voice group, members of the Round Table, could possibly give a short entertainment.

6. Anscombes. John Lewis have made application for planning permission which entails the demolition of the whole site apart from Wellington House. A reply had been received from John Lewis noting the Society's views.

3. FORMATION OF GROUPS

Schools

Mrs. A. Godfrey (caretaker)
Convenor required.

Transport

Mr V.H. Clough
~~Mr. J. Bush~~ (Convenor)
Mr. J. Bush
Mr. I. McNicoll

Plans

Mr. S. Gaubert (Convenor)
Mr. V. Clough
Mrs. A. Godfrey
Mr. J.A. Holderness
Mr. M. Smith (to be approached by
Mr. Pepper)
Mrs. L. Wang

L.P.

Commons & Greens

Dr. F.J. Moore (Convenor)
Lady Bawden
Mr. S. Bastow
Mr. E. Ward

Southdown

Mr. E. Truslove (Convenor)
Mr. J. Bush
Mr. K. Jennings
Mr. E. Ward

U.L.V.G.

Mr. J. Haggard

Environmental Group

Mrs. L. Wang (Convenor)
Mr. E. Truslove.

4. PRESS LIAISON

Contacts by Press to Mrs. Godfrey. Convenors to inform Press of the activities of their group. Full Society matters to be reported by Secretary.

A.G.
L.P.
S.G.
F.J.M.
J.H.
L.W.
J.B.

5. NEWSLETTER

The Secretary agreed to edit the Newsletter, with Mrs. Bush continuing to act as distribution officer. Mrs. Morwood undertook the typing.

J.B.
S.B.
P.M.

The names of the Convenors would be listed in the Newsletter and at the same time ask interested members to make contact with them.

ACTION

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Planning Guide Lines. Mr. Ward, on behalf of Mr. Wilson raised the question of guide lines for extensions to houses and development of small business premises. Mrs. Godfrey said these were still in the draft stage, but she would contact Mr. Wilson.

A.G.

A.G.M. The Secretary circulated the minutes of the A.G.M. Compliment slips were now available for use by members.

Insurance. The Secretary would send to B.T.C.V. insurance particulars of the Society's work parties up to 31 March 1983 so that the premium could be assessed and the Society invoiced.

J.B.

Carnival 1983. The Society had been invited to take part in the carnival organised by the Harpenden Round Table. It was agreed the Secretary would write declining.

J.B.

Spotlight Exhibit - Library 6-16 April 1983. Mr. Truslove ~~and Mr. Ward~~ agreed to assist Mr. Ward moving the Society's exhibit to the Library.

E.T.
F.J.M.
E.W.

Commons & Greens Sub-Committee, Harpenden Town Council. Dr. Moore would represent the Society.

F.J.M.

Cycleways. Mr. Pepper referred to a recent ^{government} consultative document as follows:- cycleways do work; the number of cyclists has increased since 1970; 40% of casualties are under 14 years; many cycling accidents go unreported; casualties could be 4 times greater than official statistics.

It was agreed pressure be maintained for the provision of the A1081 cycleway.

Public Hall - Insurance. The form of booking of the Hall requires hirers to have adequate insurance. The Secretary to investigate and report back to the Committee.

J.B.

Rothamsted - Development. On the 6/7 April, Rothamsted's Director and Architect would be meeting the Town Council to discuss plans for the proposed meeting hall. Mrs. Godfrey and Mrs. Wang would attend. Also Mr. Holderness if the meeting is held on 7 April.

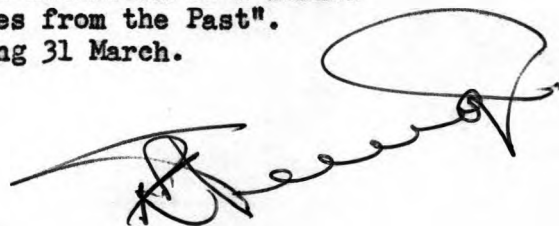
A.G.
L.W.
J.A.H.

Display Lamps. Mr. Powlesland was willing to purchase further lamps. Unanimously agreed that further lamps should not be purchased.

Television programme. Mrs. Godfrey drew attention to a series of programmes on Thames Television "Scenes from the Past". Commenced 17 March, for 6 weeks, excluding 31 March.

7. DATES FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, 26 April 1983
Tuesday, 31 May 1983.



THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

March 1983

			<u>Phone</u>
President	His Honour Judge R.G. Dow	2 Kirkwick Avenue	2006
Vice-President	Cllr. C.W. Curl	34 Haddon Court, Milton Rd.	3449
"	Miss E. Finnie	43 Milton Road	2717
"	Mr. E. Ward	4 Birch Way	3179
"	Mr. E.P. Wilson	5 Salisbury Road, Batford	4474
Chairman	Mr. K. Jennings	146 Cravells Road	60357
Vice-Chairman	Mrs. A. Godfrey	6 Douglas Road	3167
	Liaison Officer with St. Albans Civic Society.		
Treasurer	Mr. I.D.G. McNicoll	12 Tintern Close Kinsbourne Green	63398
Secretary	Mr. H.J. Bush	9 Hawthorn Close	4693

Committee:-

Mr. S. Bastow	9 Moreton Avenue	2170
Mrs. S.R. Bush	9 Hawthorn Close	4693
Membership Secretary		
Mr. R.G. Dixon	19 Stewart Road	3918
Mr. S. Gaubert	90 Eastmoor Park	4475
Mr. J.A. Holderness	58 Townsend Lane	62847
Mr. V.M. Clough	4 Timbers Court	62745
Dr. F. Joan Moore	15 Meadow Walk	4032
Mrs P. Morwood	22 Meadway	68434
Minutes Secretary		
Mr. L.G. Pepper	37 Moreton End Lane	4725
Mr. E.H. Truslove	16 Long Buftlers	60736
Events Secretary		

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held at Harpenden Hall on Tuesday
26th April 1983 at 7. 45 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. In view of the unsatisfactory position re storage of correspondence and other files, the Secretary to seek authority to purchase a secondhand filing cabinet.
5. The Chairman to raise the matter of responsibility and accountability of Officers and Committee Members regarding statements made orally and in writing.
6. Insurance of meetings - the Secretary to report
7. Heritage Outlook - circulation and filing.
8. The possible Gypsy Site
9. Reports from Groups:-
 - Plans - The Convenor will seek endorsement of a reorganisation of this Group
 - Commons and ~~Grass~~ *Grass*
 - Southdown
 - Transport
 - Environment
 - U.L.V.G.
 - Schools Liaison
10. Any other business.

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Mr. S. Bastow, Mr. & Mrs. J. Bush, Mr. V. Clough, Mr. S. Gaubert,
Mrs. A. Godfrey, Dr. F.M. Moore, Mrs. P. Morwood, Mr. L. Pepper
and Mr. E. Ward.

Apologies for absence received from Cllr. C. Curl, Mr. R. Dixon,
Mr. J. Holderness, Mr. E. Truslove and Mr. P. Wilson.

ACTION

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 29 March were agreed subject to the following amendments:-

Spotlight Exhibit - Library 6-16 April 1983. Dr. Moore did not volunteer to assist Mr. Ward.

Cycleways. "Mr. Pepper referred to a recent Government consultative document".

2. MATTERS ARISING

1. Exercise Track. The Chairman had been unable to make contact with the Chairman of the Rotary Club, but now had sight of a letter from the Town Council to residents on East Common with agreed modifications to the earlier layout. The letter also stressed that the word "track" was unfortunate since the layout would be only a series of exercise sites. Dr. Moore confirmed that the matter had been discussed at the meeting of the Commons & Greens Sub-Committee and that she had requested a copy of the letter be sent to the Secretary. It was felt there was little more the Society could do.

2. Akrill House. It was agreed there was little to be gained by Mrs. Godfrey again contacting the builder. The magazine Town & Country Planning is hoping to mount a campaign to alter the law on demolition and the Society was invited to subscribe to the magazine. A copy was handed to the Convenor of the Plans Group, and also to the Chairman to decide whether the Society would benefit, and they would report to the next meeting.

J.B.
S.G.
K.J.

3. Beautiful Britain Year 1983. The Secretary had met the Town Clerk with the Society's suggestions for possible projects. Now referred to the General Purposes Committee for decision.

J.B.

4. Cheese & Wine Party. Due to illness, Mr. Truslove will be unable to supervise during the party, but he has made arrangements for various people to take charge of the several parts of the necessary work. Very few replies had been received offering assistance from the appeal in the Newsletter. The Secretary distributed posters for display.

5. Anscombes. The Society's recommendations on the application made by John Lewis Partnership were circulated.

ACTION

A request had been received by Mrs. Wang from Mr. Fallon, owner of adjoining property asking for a copy of the Society's recommendations. It was agreed that at the present time the recommendations should remain confidential.

J.B.

6. Formation of Groups. Mr. Pepper did not wish to act as Convenor of the Transport Group and Mr. Clough agreed to replace him.

V.C.

The Secretary gave the name of Dr. Whitear to Dr. Moore as a member interested in trees and the common.

F.J.M.
J.B.

The Secretary would telephone Mrs. Reed (a neighbour of Mr. Truslove) who was willing to undertake work on publicity, exhibitions and typing. Mr. Truslove would make personal contact on his return from hospital.

E.T.

3. FILING AND STORAGE

Mr. Dixon offered to provide a filing cabinet, but in the event of this being unsuitable authorisation was given to the Secretary for the purchase of a cabinet.

R.D.
J.B.

4. ACCOUNTABILITY OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chairman had received a letter from Cllr. Jenkins, Town Council, on the representation and voting of members of the Society at the Annual Town Meeting.

The Secretary to call a meeting of officers to formulate guide lines within the rules of the constitution.

J.B.

An anonymous letter in similar vein printed in the Herts. Advertiser was shown to the Committee; there would be no reply.

The Chairman would reply to Cllr. Jenkins that this is still a matter for discussion.

K.J.

5. INSURANCE OF MEETINGS

Work parties were already covered under the BTCV scheme, but there is no cover for meetings. The Secretary reported on the insurance position of other similar organisations. Redbourn have contacted Municipal Mutual who are supplying particulars of policy, cost etc. Premium £24 approx. a year, but insurance cannot be arranged before the Wine & Cheese Party. To be reported to the next meeting.

J.B.

6. HERITAGE OUTLOOK

The Secretary would circulate two copies. Any member or officer reading an article which it is felt should be retained would notify the Secretary, for extraction and file.

J.B.

7. GYPSY SITE

The Redbourn Group had supplied the Secretary with a copy of their minutes resolving -

ACTION

"Join hands with Harpenden, Sandridge, London Colney and other areas."

It is suggested joint pressure is put on the County Council to look at a more even distribution and the Redbourn Group are inviting the Society to attend a joint meeting. It was agreed to meet with the Redbourn Group; the representative would be appointed when the date of the meeting is known, and the Secretary would write.

J.B.

Mrs. Godfrey to get in touch with the County Council for further information. To be brought forward at the next meeting.

A.G.

J.B.

The East Common Land Association are asking for the Society's view and requested the Society be represented at their next meeting.

8. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

1. Schools. No report.

2. Transport. The parking fees in Amenbury Lane car park have been reduced.

3. Plans. Inspection of applications would be in rotation - Mrs. Wang, Mr. S. Gaubert, Mr. J. Holderness, Mr. V. Clough and Mrs. A. Godfrey, and they would write to Mr. McKenna and the Town Council. It will be the policy not to send copies of correspondence to Town Councillors and Plans (North) District Councillors. A copy will be given to the Secretary and Chairman. Mr. Gaubert will speak on behalf of the Group.

The following applications were reported on:-

5/0399/83LB Waitrose - Demolition of Anscombes building.

5/0484/83LB

5/0398/83

5/0522/83 Coleswood. New dwelling.

Harpenden Town Inset Map.

Proposed conservation area Batford Lea Valley and Kinsbourne Green Area

5/0127/83 23 Vaughan Road

5/0348/83 1A Vaughan Road

Appeal 175 Westfield Road

5/0229/83 Squash Club, Lower Luton Road

5/0213/83 7 High Street

5/019A/83 Harpenden Lodge

ACTION

Appeal Greygates. Chairman to reply to letter from owner that as the application has gone to appeal the Society has no further comment.

K.J.

4. Commons & Greens. The improvement of the Rothamsted exit was entirely in the hands of the County Council. An area had been cleared to a depth of 15' to improve the sight line.

Concern had been expressed about the muddy state of the non-statutory riders route on the common. Cllr. Walker had written to all riding schools in the area asking for riders to keep to a new alternative route to enable the original route to 'dry out'.

Dr. Moore had had a meeting with two members of the Group to discuss a letter from Mr. Callewaert on the trimming of trees on the Common. Photographs of the trimmed trees were produced. There was concern that all the trees had been trimmed in the same manner. Dr. Moore to reply to Mr. Callewaert and raise the matter at the Town Council meeting.

F.J.M.

Unsuitable trees have been planted outside the Rovers pavilion. Dr. Moore to bring the matter to the attention of the Commons & Greens Sub-Committee.

F.J.M.

Mr. Bailey of 20 West Common Grove reported dumping of rubbish on the common on the west side of the A1081. Ownership of the land to be verified. The Town Council have also expressed concern about dumping.

5. Southdown. Mr. Ward reported that a path is being worn along the edge of the Green at Southdown. Cllr. Curl has written to Mr. McKenna who has agreed to put down a hoggin surface. A footpath was not intended and Cllr. Curl is to clarify the position.

C.C.

6. U.L.V.G. Work completed in shoring up river bank where it is joined by the outfall from the paddling pool. Steps have been made down to the river near Marquis Lane Playing Field. The Group would like to add its voice opposing the building of squash courts at Lower Luton Road. Work parties will now be monthly.

7. Environment. One reply only was received to the Newsletter appeal for help with work parties. Mrs. Wang hopes to form a group to proceed with the work.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nicky Line. A letter had been received by the Secretary from the District Council on the conversion and asking for the assistance of amenity groups. The Secretary would reply reminding the Council of the Society's past role in the creation of the Batford Leasy Bridge project.

J.B.

The Secretary had a new supply of notepaper for use by members and officers.

ACTION

The Secretary produced a specimen of the Society's proposed fixture card with a quotation for 800 cards, inclusive, of £130. Committee agreed the Secretary proceed with the purchase.

I.M.
J.B.

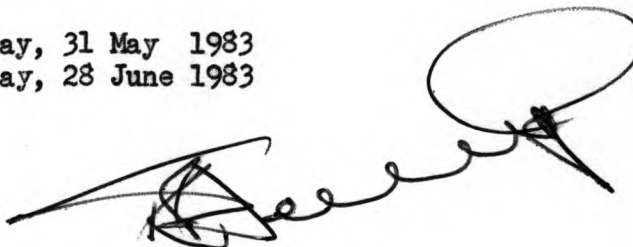
Local History Society - "The History of the Harpenden Society" Exhibition May 1983. After discussion, and due to other commitments by members it was agreed that it would not be possible for the Society to mount the exhibition at this time. The Secretary to contact Mr. S. Cotton with the Society's apologies.

J.B.

Members of the Committee signed a "Get Well" card to be sent to Mr. Truslove who was in hospital.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday, 31 May 1983
Tuesday, 28 June 1983

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to the Secretary, is written over the meeting dates.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held at Harpenden Hall on Tuesday 31st May
1983 at 7.45 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Accountability of Officers and Committee Members
5. Possible Gypsy site. The Chairman to report on meeting with Redbourn Assn. and the Secretary to report on further communication from the East Common Land Assn.
6. Report on Cheese and Wine Party.
7. Insurance. The Secretary to report
8. The Nicky Line. Request from District Council for financial assistance
9. National Childrens' Home. Possible alteration to District Plan.
10. Harpenden Station. The Secretary to report on meeting with B.R. Transport Users' Council.
11. Reports from Groups:-
 - Plans
 - Commons and Greens
 - Southdown
 - Transport
 - Environment
 - U.L.V.G.
12. Any other business.
13. Date of next meeting

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday, 31 May 1983
at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Mr. K. Jennings in the Chair
Mr. and Mrs. Bush, Mr. R. Dixon, Mrs. A. Godfrey, Mr. J. Holderness,
Dr. F.J. Moore, Mrs. P. Morwood, Mr. L. Pepper, Mr. E. Truslove
and Mr. E. Ward

Apologies for absence received from Mr. S. Bastow, Mr. V. Clough,
Mr. S. Gaubert and Mr. I. McNicoll (attended at 10.05 p.m.)

ACTION

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 26 April were agreed and signed as a correct record.
2. MATTERS ARISING:-
 1. Magazine Town & Country Planning. As members had not had the opportunity of reading the magazine a decision on whether the Society should subscribe was deferred until the next meeting. J.B.
 2. Filing and Storage. Mr. Dixon confirmed that the filing cabinet would be available at a later date. R.D.
 3. Accountability of Officers & Committee Members. The Chairman read to the Committee his letter in reply to that of Cllr. Jenkins dated 30 March. The Chairman's letter pointed out that Mrs. Wang had been invited to speak on the Society's behalf but voting by attending members of the Society on the gypsy site was as members of the electorate.
 4. Commons and Greens, paras 3 and 4. Dr. Moore confirmed that these matters had been referred to the Town Council's Commons & Greens Working Party.
 5. Local History Society - "The History of the Harpenden Society" Exhibition May 1983. The Society's withdrawal from staging this Exhibition had been acknowledged by the Local History Society.
 6. Work - publicity, exhibitions, typing etc. Mr. Truslove had approached Mrs. Reed who felt she would not be able to undertake this work.
3. ACCOUNTABILITY OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS. Mr. Pepper's letter of 9 May 1983 to the Chairman was read to the Meeting. This letter put the following motion to the Committee:-

"That the Committee of the Harpenden Society in its proceedings observe the Society's Constitution or take steps to have the Constitution amended to bring it into line with present practices."

In furtherance of this Resolution copies of the Constitution were distributed to Committee members and Item 8 was discussed at length. It was recognised that the Plans Group would need to act without delay. It was decided to appoint a Sub-Committee to investigate the matter fully and recommend what changes, if any, are called for. The Sub-Committee consists of Leslie Pepper (Chairman),

ACTION

Jack Bush (Secretary) and Colin Curl and/or Ted Ward. Mr. Pepper would approach Judge Dow for his views on the matter before the Sub-Committee meets.

~~Mr. Ward would try to contact past Chairman/Member's who have past minutes.~~

E.W.

4. POSSIBLE GYPSY SITE

The Chairman attended the meeting of the Redbourn Association, with a representative of the Park Street Association. There was no representative from Sandridge. No decision on policy was reached, but there was overall agreement on maldistribution. The Secretary felt the Redbourn Association had misrepresented the purpose of the meeting.

The Secretary tabled a copy of a letter from the East Common Land Association to the C.E.O. of the County Council suggesting that land adjoining the Common, owned by the County Council, is given to Harpenden Town Council as an extension of the Common. Dr. Moore would acknowledge the letter, on behalf of the Commons & Greens Group, saying they would investigate.

F.J.M.

Mrs. Godfrey had contacted the County Council (Mr. Clark). The Council have ^{is enough} sufficient and suitable accommodation for gypsies residing in their area. ^{at present there are} 8 in the county, excluding illegal sites. Their policy is that they acquire, build and manage sites, but ask District Councils to suggest location. Thereafter they look at the sites and decide for or against. Until sufficient accommodation is available the Council cannot move gypsies off illegal sites.

There is a limit to the money the DoE will provide. All sites must have sewerage and main services.

The County Council are commenting on District Council's suggested sites at the Health and Welfare Committee in October. Mr. Clark would be willing to speak to this Committee.

Mr. Dixon would research what services are available at the Ayres End Lane site.

R.D.

Mrs. Godfrey will keep in touch with the County Council and refer back again to the next meeting.

A.G.

5. CHEESE AND WINE PARTY

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Truslove back after his recent illness, and thanked him for his earlier hard work. Mr. Truslove suggested a note of thanks be included in the next Newsletter for the benefit of all who had assisted. There was a loss of £14 over expenditure of £239; attendance was 30% down. The Secretary referred to a criticism from Mrs. Richardson of 54 Stewart Road who had been unable to hear the speakers. Mr. Truslove and Mr. Bush to investigate the provision of a microphone. It was agreed the entertainment had been excellent.

J.B.

E.T.

J.B.

A further suggestion from Mr. Truslove was that in future it might be possible to combine the Cheese and Wine Party with the A.G.M.

Comment to be made in the July Newsletter that the Party was much

ACTION

enjoyed, but attendance was disappointing.

J.B.

Proposed by Mr. Dixon that £14 deficit be paid out of the Society's funds.

I.M.

6. INSURANCE

A specimen policy from M.M.I. had been received by the Secretary. Third Party indemnity, maximum £1 million, for all liabilities due to accident and/or loss of damage to property, includes officers and committee members. Excludes liabilities covered by other insurance, property owned or borrowed by the Society and Work Parties. Premium £24 annually. It was agreed that there must be cover for the projector borrowed from Further Education.

J.B.

M.M.I. can provide an All Risks policy and this would give more cover than required by the Society at an additional premium of £10, assuming value is not in excess of £500. Mr. Dixon proposed that the Society obtain all necessary cover at a combined premium of £34 and the Secretary would enquire whether this latter policy covered the screens owned by the Society.

J.B.

Mr. Truslove asked to be indemnified for ^{any claim for other charges} ~~the hire charges~~ of the Public Hall. Mr. Pepper would investigate the possibility of a claim against Mr. Truslove (or any member of the Society) when acting on the Society's behalf.

L.P.

7. NICKY LINE

A further letter had been received from the District Council for financial aid. At a meeting of the Society's officers, it was suggested that a sum not in excess of £500 could be promised. The Secretary had advised the District Council of this stipulating that the promise was subject to the agreement of the Committee, and had asked that a representative be allowed to attend as an observer at a meeting on 2 June, but no reply had been received. The Secretary had also enquired whether the Society's contribution could be used for some identifiable aspect of the project. The Secretary was authorised to confirm the promise of a contribution up to £500 and to enquire what will be the overall cost of the whole project.

J.B.

8. NATIONAL CHILDRENS' HOME

A News Release on the District Plan stated the Inspector had recommended the Oval be removed from the Green Belt and that Harpenden Lodge grounds be housing and public open space. The Society would receive a free copy of the Inspector's Report, but Mrs. Godfrey was authorised to purchase an additional copy at a cost of £5.

I.M.
A.G.

A brief summary of the Report to be included in the July Newsletter.

J.B.

9. HARPENDEN STATION

Mr. H. Mills is no longer a member of the Association of Public Transport Users (Bedford/London Line); his place has been taken by Mr. A. Jackson Robbins. The Secretary had agreed with Mr. Robbins that the Society would keep in contact.

J.B.

ACTION

British Rail, in a letter to the Society, stated the temporary ticket office was to allow the introduction of new ticket issuing equipment, but were unable to give final details of plans in respect of the down side Station building.

10. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

1. Schools. No report.

2. Trnasport. The County Council's public transport plan was on display in the Library. The report by the District Council's Works & Technical Services Department dealing with St. Albans made reference to the pedestrian crossing at Southdown and the cycleway.

3. Plans. The following were reported on:-

5/026A/83 121 Lower Luton Road - shop fascia sign.

5/0616/83 Extension to Moat House

5/0618/83 50 Batford Road - single storey extension

Appeal Baulk's Yard - re enforcement notice relating to use of land

5/0676/83 37 Roundwood Park - detached bungalow

Extension to conservation area, Batford Lea Valley and Kinsbourne Green Area

5/0709/83 Taj Mahal Restaurant, 12 Station Road

5/0712/83 14 Moreton End Lane - detached chalet house

5/0738/83 Rothamsted Experimental Station, Meeting Hall

5/0740/83 White Lion Public House

5/0741/83 19 Ashley Gardens - hall and kitchen extension

5/0471/83 D.V. Baulk - erection of pre-fab offices

4. Commons & Greens. Three items were discussed at the Town Council's Commons & Greens Working Party:-

Exercise apparatus. Equipment had been located adjacent to shrubs so as not to be conspicuous. There would be an opening day date not fixed.

Ayres End Lane. Temporary bridle path (horse ride) complete.

Parking area, Leyton Road. The suggestion by the Town Council that the Society wished for a barrier of shrubs to obscure this car park was incorrect (minutes of 18 January refer). Dr. Moore would inform the Commons & Greens Working Party at their next meeting.

F.J.M.

Rubbish - land Redbourn Road/St. Albans Road - manorial rights. Deferred until next meeting.

F.J.M.

A request from the ^{Lady Bawden} ~~Town Council~~ for members to affix stickers to cars parking on common verges was not agreed.

ACTION

5. Southdown. The Town Council had agreed to spend £5,000 landscaping Cravells Road car park and the Committee were of the opinion this should be spent on the approved plan.

Non-designated footpath - the Green. It was possible that the path had been made by the construction workers/gardeners. Mr. Truslove would write to the District Council with the Society's views on the ~~car park plan~~ the footpath.

E.T.

6. U.L.V.G. No report.

7. Environment. The Secretary read the Group Report -

- (1) Work Party 26 May 1983 cleared garden fronting Station Approach and trimmed trees bordering bank.
- (2) Suggestion for schools competition. Mrs. Wang offered her services. Deferred to next meeting.
- (3) Beautiful Britain. Concern expressed at lack of response to appeal for helpers.
- (4) Group approached re broken fence industrial estate Southdown Road. The Secretary had written to the lessees.

J.B.

11. MEMBERSHIP

Subscriptions paid	515
unpaid	211
	<hr/>
	726

It was agreed requests for membership renewal should be sent with the July Newsletter and a s.a.e. enclosed.

J.B.
S.B.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Newsletter. Material required for July Newsletter.

Madesco had agreed to open a monthly account providing they had a list (in writing) of members authorised to obtain photographic copies.

J.B.

Civic Service, 12 June 1983. The Chairman agreed to represent the Society.

K.J.

Loan of Society's screens. The Committee agreed a request from Mrs. Godfrey for the loan of screens to the St. Albans Civic Society.

A.G.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

28 June 1983
26 July 1983

A large, stylized handwritten signature or scribble, possibly reading 'S. Wang', with a large loop at the end.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held on Tuesday 28th June 1983 at Harpenden Hall
at 7.45 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. The Constitution.
5. The Nicky Line.
6. Schools competition for tidiest grounds.
7. Membership Drive.
8. Gypsy Site. Commons Group to report on proposal by E. Common Land Assn.
9. Insurance.
10. July Newsletter.
11. Madesco Account.
12. Any other business.
13. Date of next meeting.

12 Reports from Groups: -

Plans
Commons & Greens
Southdown
Transport
Environment
VLVG

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday 28th June, 1983
at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Mr. K. Jennings in the Chair
Mr. S. Bastow, Mr. J. Bush, Mr. V. Clough, Cllr. C.Curl,
Mr. R. Dixon, Mr. S. Gaubert, Mrs. A. Godfrey,
Mr. J. Holderness, Dr.F.J. Moore, Mr. E. Truslove,
Mr. E. Ward.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Mrs.S.Bush, Mr.L.Pepper, Mr.P.Wilson, Mrs.P.Morwood.

The Secretary announced that Mr.Pepper would be entering hospital for an operation on the following day. The Secretary also read a letter from Mr. Wilson stating that, owing to personal commitments, he would be unable to participate in future Society activities and therefore wished to resign as Vice- President. The Chairman would reply to this letter thanking Mr. Wilson for all he has done for the Society in the past, but pointing out that there was no need for him to resign as Vice-President.

A letter had been received from Mrs. Morwood stating that as she would be away from Harpenden for perhaps 3 months, it would be better to resign. A reply had been prepared and would be sent to Mrs. Morwood thanking her for her work in the past, but inviting her to remain on the Committee and hopefully in the autumn to resume the task of Minute Secretary. The Secretary would handle the Minutes meanwhile.

ACTION

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 31st May were agreed and signed as a correct record subject to the following alterations:-

Page 2 Delete the last sentence of Item 3

Page 2 Item 4, 3rd Para. The 2nd sentence should read "The Council have to provide sufficient and suitable accomodation for gypsies residing in their area. At present there are 8 sites in the County....."

Page 3 Item 6, 3rd Para. Should read " Mr. Truslove asked to be indemnified for any claim in respect of the hire of the Public Hall."

Page 4 Last Para. The request re car stickers was from Lady Bowden.

Page 5 Item 5 re the footpath. In 2nd sentence delete the words "car park plan and the"

2. MATTERS ARISING :-

1. Filing. Arrangements had been made for the Secretary to collect a filing cabinet from Mr. Dixon on 30th June. This was a gift to the Society and the Committee accorded a vote of thanks to Mr. Dixon.

2. Trees (See Report of Commons and Greens Group 26/4/83)
Dr.Moore reported that the unsuitable trees outside the Rovers Football Club had now been removed.

3. Town and Country Planning Magazine. The Committee accepted the view of the Plans Group that it was not worth subscribing to this publication. Mr. Gaubert asked if he could obtain a copy of the official leaflet setting out Standard Conditions applicable to planning permission. The Committee authorised the purchase of this.

3. THE CONSTITUTION

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Pepper stating that he had discussed the matter with Judge Dow and the following facts emerge :-

- (i) The present constitution was adopted in order to secure charity status and is a 'model constitution' for charity organisations.
- (ii) Para 8 of the constitution does give sub-committees the powers, if necessary, to act independently of the Executive Committee, but the sub-committee must afterwards report back to the Executive Committee and "ask if what it has done is all right."
- (iii) If there is time for a sub-committee to obtain 'Executive Committee approval for a proposed action', it should do so.
- (iv) Sub-committees have not always reported back to the Executive Committee, and in such cases there have been contraventions of the constitution and moreover no minuted record exists of the action taken by the sub-committee.
- (v) Except for a small alteration to delete the need for sub-committees to appoint secretaries (which alteration would not affect the Society's status) it was felt that no further amendment was necessary.

The foregoing was discussed at length and it was decided to distribute copies of Mr. Pepper's letter to all Committee Members and bring the matter up again at the next meeting. It was suggested and agreed that, in reading the constitution the words "Sub-committee" and "Chairman" could be interpreted as "Group" and "Convenor" in our present terminology.

J.B.

4. THE NICKY LINE. The Secretary reported that he had received no replies to his letters to the District Council. Cllr Curl mentioned that the Council felt that they would receive sufficient money for the project, but that there were many complications which are delaying replies to correspondence. Attention was drawn to a request made by the Redbourne area that motor cycles and horses be banned from the pathway. The Committee felt that this was a useful idea and that the Society wished to express the same request. The Secretary was asked to write to the District Council suggesting that when regulations and bye-laws are drawn up, these points be included.

J.B.

ACTION

5. SCHOOLS COMPETITION. An ad hoc sub-committee to be formed from the Environment Group under the chairmanship of Mrs Wang to investigate the whole project and to present to the Committee a feasibility study including how the scheme would operate, costs, etc. L.W.
6. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE. Mr. Ward to produce a draft of a leaflet to be distributed with the Review in the Harpenden area. This would follow the form of a similar leaflet used with some success some years ago. The Secretary to obtain a quotation of the cost of this, but the actual distribution to be deferred until September. A recruiting drive aimed at friends of Members to be included in the October Newsletter. E.W.
J.B.
S.B.
7. GYPSY SITE. Dr. Moore reported that the suggestion made by the East Common Land Association had been investigated. They admitted that the whole purpose was to stop the creation of the Gypsy Site, but also they hoped it would prompt the Society to make its views known. An enquiry to the County Council produced the answer that they have no intention of giving the land away and in fact have applications under consideration for agricultural use of the land. Mr. Dixon reported that the proposed area had no sewerage and that provision of this plus bringing water and electricity there and also improvements to the road would require a considerable amount of money. He proposed that the Society should state its objections to the site on these grounds plus the facts that this involved Green Belt land and would present a potential danger due to proximity to an electrified railway. This was agreed and the Secretary was requested to write to the Director of Social Services of the County Council (copies to District and Town Council) expressing our objections for these reasons. The Secretary was also requested to write to the East Common Land Association stating that whilst we cannot support their suggestion we are enclosing a copy of our letter to the County Council. J.B.
J.B.
8. INSURANCE. The Secretary had not received a reply from Municipal Mutual Insurance requesting further details of their "All Risks Policy" He would follow this up. J.B.
9. NEWSLETTER. The July Newsletter is now an urgent matter and the Secretary requested contributions within 10 days.
10. MADESCO ACCOUNT. No decision made as to the opening of a monthly account. The Treasurer's opinion to be sought at the next meeting. I. McN
11. REPORTS FROM GROUPS.
Plans. The Group drew the District Council's attention to much blatant advertising in fascia boards over shops. Some examples of this were quoted. An appeal re 61 High Street (change of use from shop to office) was commented on. The Group studied the Inspector's report on the District Plan and Mr. Gaubert discussed this with Martin Bacon, and was

informed that the Report was commissioned by the District Council in order to obtain an independent opinion. There is no intention to invite further representations on the Report, although any grievances could be communicated to our Member. The following points stand out as matters of concern to the Society :-

- i) Small scale and light industrial activities could be carried on within a residential area provided they cause no unacceptable disturbance. The Society sought, without success, to have the word "unacceptable" deleted.
- ii) Re Harpenden Lodge, the Inspector recommends that "Public Open Space" be deleted from the Plan, but that the Council should come to an agreement with the parties concerned as to reasonable use of the land.

Commons and Greens. There has not been a Group meeting during the month, nor has the Town Council Committee met. The matter of the car parking area in Leyton Road (see Page 4 Minutes 31/5/83) will be discussed in the Group at their next meeting. Dr. Moore has investigated a complaint from Mr. L. Bailey regarding rubbish dumped on the strip of land between West Common Grove and the A.1081. There is some garden rubbish including a few plastic bags, but this is well into the woodland and not an obvious eyesore. The Town Council have advised that this land is among certain areas owned by Jarvis, but it is understood that some of it has been sold to house owners adjoining it. Thus the Town Council have no responsibility and the Society can act only with the owners' consent. The Committee agreed that this complaint does not warrant Society action and the Secretary was requested to advise Mr. Bailey accordingly.

J.B.

Southdown. Mr. Truslove drew attention to some letters quoted in the Press expressing dismay at the prospect of the Cravells Road car park becoming a "paying " car park. The Town Council had voted £5000 towards the project and Cllr. Curl mentioned that it is a Government directive that if public money is spent creating or refurbishing a car park, it must be paid for by the users. Mr. Truslove also reported that he had written to the District Council regarding the "footpath" on the Southdown green stating that a permanent footpath should not be created unless a positive need is proved. No reply so far.

Transport Mr. Clough reported difficulty in forming the Group through lack of Members, Mr. Bush being the only other Member. It was suggested that a paragraph be inserted in the July newsletter inviting Society Members who have an interest in this subject to join the Group.

ENVIRONMENT.

(1) The Committee approved Mrs. Wang's suggestion to replace the dead tree on the verge of Bowers Way car park using a tree from the ULVG's nursery, the work to be done in the autumn.

(2) The question of parking cars on the Common adjoining Leyton Road has been discussed with Dr. Moore.

(3) "Paperchain", Harding Parade have 3 display boards obstructing the pavement. This has been reported to the District Council.

(4) Sancelia House, Station Approach is now for sale. Mrs. Wang feels that there is no point in the work party doing anything further until ownership is established.

(5) Following the work done in the Station area, B.R. have taken a hand in the matter and sent in some "gardeners" who have literally butchered the young trees. Mrs. Wang tabled a copy of her letter of complaint to the Area Manager.

(6) The planting outside the Police Station is the work of an unknown gardener. Even the Policeman on duty did not know who the person is. Mrs Wang is trying to find out and possibly he/she may like to join our work party.

(7) Since the appeal has been won, the open space around the corner cottage of Sun Lane/ High Street will be infilled. Eric Meadows is making records of the site as it is now, for historical purposes.

U.L.V.G. No report. The Committee expressed concern that there had been no report at this and the previous meeting. The Secretary was asked to make contact.

J.B.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Godfrey asked what action was taken with photographs used in the Society's display at the "Spotlight" exhibition. Mr. Ward replied that these are all retained in envelopes located in the History Room.

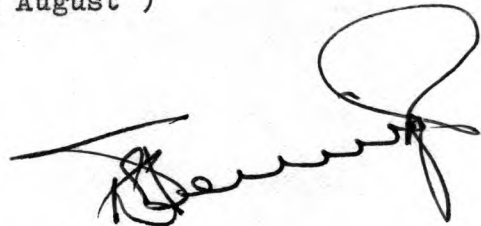
13. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 26th July

Tuesday 6th September

(Please note - no meeting during August)

The Meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. B.', with a large loop at the end.

.....

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee meeting to be held on Tuesday 26th July 1983 at Harpenden Hall
at 7.45 p.m.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. The Constitution. Copy of Mr. L. Pepper's report attached. For discussion and decision.
5. The Nicky Line. A letter has been received from the District Council which answers our questions.
6. Insurance. The Secretary now has full details of the proposed cover and it is hoped that this matter can now be finalised.
7. Madesco Account. Brought forward from previous meeting.
8. Town Council. The Secretary will draw attention to some points of interest to the Society extracted from Minutes of Town Council Meetings.
9. Reports from Groups :-
 - Plans
 - Commons and Greens
 - Southdown
 - Transport
 - Environment
 - ULVG
10. Any other business
11. Date of next meeting.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday 26th July 1983
at Harpenden Hall

Present:- Mr. K. Jennings in the Chair
Mr. J. Bush, Mrs. S. Bush, Mr. R. Dixon, Mrs. A. Godfrey,
Mr. J. Holderness, Dr. F.J. Moore, Mr. E. Truslove,
Mr. E. Ward.

Apologies for absence received from Mr. S. Bastow, Mr. V. Clough,
Mrs. P. Morwood, Mr. I. McNicoll, Mr. L. Pepper.

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 28th June were agreed and signed as a correct record, with apologies to Mr. Bastow for having recorded his name as "Baxter" (amended before signature)

2. MATTERS ARISING

ACTION

(a) Gypsy Site The secretary reported that letters setting out the Society's objections had been sent (see Para 7 Minutes 28/6/83) to the County Council, District and Town Councils and the East Common Land Assn. A reply had been received from the County Council which described the general situation and also mentioned the following points :- (i) only feasibility is being considered at present (ii) there would be further public consultation before any development goes ahead (iii) representations would be invited at the planning application stage and (iv) many things people fear can be avoided by good site design, management and control of work activities. Some Committee members expressed the view that the latter point may prove to be a little optimistic. The Secretary was requested to try to find out whether the District Council has any views on the choice of sites.

JB

The Secretary also reported that Minutes of a meeting of the Redbourn Assn. revealed an intention to produce a leaflet describing their objections to a local site and to deliver the leaflet to every Redbourn household.

Mrs Godfrey stated that the District were required to provide 15 "pitches" and in theory all of the 4 sites could be used with some "pitches" on each. Mr. Ward had prepared a very clear statement of the views of the Society on the Ayres End Lane site and this is included in the current Newsletter. It was agreed that when copies of this are sent to the Press, Mrs. Bush should include a covering letter drawing attention to the matter, and referring reporters to Mr. Ward if they want any further information.

(b) Trees Among the files received by the Secretary (via Mr Jennings) from Mr. Powlesland there are two relating to the former Trees Group. One shows the location of every tree on which there is a preservation order. The other is largely made up of leaflets, booklets, etc. dealing with planting and care of trees, and it was felt that this file is better in the hands of those more actively concerned. It was handed over to Dr. Moore who would Liaise with Mrs. Wang.

(c) ULVG. The Secretary reported that following a phone call to Mrs Catterfeld, (See minutes 28/6/83 Page 5) a report had been received from Mr. Haggard and a very interesting article for the Newsletter had been provided by Mrs Catterfeld.

(d) Newsletter Mrs. Bush reported that the July newsletter was printed, but owing to a fault in the machine of the Resources Centre the standard of printing was not as good as it had been recently. Letters to members whose subscriptions are unpaid were also printed and ready for delivery with the Newsletters. Each would have a stamped reply envelope. The fixture cards were now awaited also for delivery with the Newsletters. Mr. Bush had seen the proof of these cards.

(e) Mr. P. Wilson (See Minutes 28/6/83 Page 1.) The Chairman read a copy of his letter to Mr. Wilson.

(f) Mrs. P. Morwood (See Minutes 28/6/83 Page 1.) A reply had been received from Mrs. Morwood stating that, provided family matters permit, she will be happy to remain on the Committee and to resume the task of Minute Secretary.

3. THE CONSTITUTION The Committee members having studied Mr. Pepper's report, it was agreed to amend the Constitution to remove the need for Groups to appoint secretaries. It was felt that the next A.G.M. would be soon enough for this. Attention was drawn to an obvious omission of a sub-heading in the typescript of the Constitution on the top of Page 3, where presumably there should be the words "5. GENERAL MEETINGS". It was also pointed out that in the 2nd paragraph of this section, it is not clear how many members could call a Special General Meeting. Presumably there should be a minimum number. It was decided to seek Mr. Pepper's advice on this.

LP

4. THE NICKY LINE The Secretary tabled a letter from the District Council thanking the Society for the promised financial contribution and stating that the Council will try to use this money for some identifiable part of the project. The letter also advised that the total estimated cost of the whole project is £40,000 (Harpenden to Redbourn) plus £25,000 (Redbourn to Dacorum District). It was recalled that the Council estimated that about 50% of the total value could be met by the D.O.E., the County Council and the Manpower Services Commission. This leaves the District Council having to find £30,000 plus from their own resources and from public subscription. The Secretary also reported having written to the District Council suggesting that horses and motor-cycles should be banned from the path. No reply yet. Mrs. Godfrey reported a rumour that householders adjoining the line have received a letter from the Council offering them the embankment backing on to their properties, if they will maintain such areas. It was decided to ask Mrs. Godfrey to investigate further to determine whether or not this is fact.

AG

5. INSURANCE The Secretary reported having received a specimen policy which would cover the projectors borrowed and the Society's display boards, at an annual premium of £10. The main conditions of the policy were described. Mr. Dixon proposed that the Society should go ahead with (a) the Third Party Liability policy and (b) the above "All Risks" policy at a total premium of £34. This was agreed and the Secretary was requested to proceed.

JB

6. MADESCO. A letter had been received from the Treasurer stating that the advantages of having an account with Madesco were fairly marginal. After some discussion it was decided to leave the matter as it is, and for individual Members to pay for photocopies, etc., and claim from the Treasurer later.

7. TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES. The Secretary reported the following points of interest, extracted from the Minutes of Town Council Meetings:-

(a) from the General Purposes Committee:-

(i) A supply of Dulux paint had been applied for to re-decorate the pedestrian tunnel in Station Road.

(ii) Cllr. Murray attended an on-site meeting at Beesonend with representatives of the Police, County and District Councils, the subject being the A.1081 "cycleway/footpath" It was decided to re-surface the path but no major works would be undertaken.

(iii) A letter had been received from the District Council proposing a scheme for widening the approach road from the A.1081 to Rothamsted. Under this, one tree would have to be removed. The Town Council inspected the site and found that, by slightly angling the junction of this road with West Common, no trees at all need be affected. The District Council have been informed of this.

(b) from the Highways Advisory Panel:-

(i) The County Council are unable to assist in clearing the scrub on the West side of the A.1081. (The Town Council are at present doing this)

(ii) The County Council have been asked to provide double white lines on the A.1081 from Rothamsted to the junction with Redbourn Lane. Further, that traffic leaving Rothamsted be banned from turning right on to the A. 1081.

(iii) The Town Council to seek a meeting with the Police re parking in Carlton Road.

(c) from the Commons and Greens Committee:-

It was agreed in principle to plant some shrubs to screen cars parked off Leyton Road, but not to create a complete hedge. This is confirmed by a letter from the Town Clerk requesting a meeting to discuss the type of shrub to be planted. The latter was passed to Dr. Moore to take up the matter.

FJM

8. SCHOOLS COMPETITION. Proposals for this competition had been received from Mrs. Wang. The main points are:-

(a) two trophies (for junior and senior schools respectively) to be presented annually and inscribed with the names of the winning schools and the year.

(b) judging by a team of, say, 4 Society Members, inspections taking place several times a year.

(c) general care of school grounds, footpaths, absence of litter, broken fences, graffiti, etc would be considered. Hedge and grass cutting would be outside the scope of the competition.

The main idea is to keep the project simple, but to encourage pupils and staff to become more aware of the school environment. The cost to the Society would be the initial outlay of the two trophies, and the annual expense of inscribing them. Mrs Wang requested permission to attend the next Committee meeting to discuss the project in detail. This was agreed and the September meeting suggested.

9. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

(a) Plans The following planning applications were commented on:-
 5/0941/83 Chalet house and garage, The Common, Kinsbourne Green.
 5/0675/83 Land at rear 175 Westfield Rd., grazing of horses.
 5/0229/83 (Amended) Lea Spring Squash Club.
 5/0995/83 6a Leyton Rd., shop and 1st floor offices.
 5/1007/83 29 Cravells Road, extension of house.
 5/1018/83 Nicky Line conversion. Mrs Wang drew attention to a meeting of Plans North on 27th July to discuss this and decide on access points (not shown on plan)
 5/1053/83LB Harpenden Station. The plans had only just reached Harpenden, and had been studied by Mrs. Wang who reported that the initial reaction is that B.R. have done a good job.. Many of the points made by the Society have been included, and the building, although partially demolished will retain much of its character. Mrs. Wang requested that another member of the Plans Group study the plan and discuss the Society's stand thereon.
 A draft letter to the District Council re the District Plan was approved by the Committee.

(b) Commons and Greens. Dr. Moore reported that there is a problem in connection with the cutting of grass and removal of hay. The Town council realise that they must find a contractor who will both cut the grass and take away the hay. They are hoping to arrange this. The Chairman of the Town Council Commons and Greens Committee has made the point that there should be priority for clearance of the Common. The Group received a request for a seat in the Batford area. This was passed to the ULVG. It is noted that the exercise apparatus on the Common appears to be used very little.

(c) Southdown. Mr. Truslove reported that the District Council have given the go-ahead for the Cravells Road car park, and have allocated £9,000 for the project (in addition to the £5,000 set aside by the Town Council.) The District Council have ruled that their contribution must be found by savings on other projects. Regarding the unofficial "path" on the Southdown Road edge of the green, it was noted that a contributory factor was the parking of cars with the nearside wheels over the kerb. It was also mentioned that obliteration of the yellow line due to re-surfacing encourages people to park there. Mr. Truslove will be pursuing this matter.

ET

(d) Transport. No report. There is a paragraph in the current Newsletter seeking volunteers to join this Group.

(e) Environmental. Regarding the harsh treatment by B.R. of the trees at Harpenden Station, Mrs Wang sent to the meeting the reply to her letter, from which it appears that the "pruning" was carried out by B.R. civil engineering staff. Mrs Wang requested the Committee's permission to pursue the matter and this was granted. The unknown gardener of the Police Station has not yet been found. The Committee felt it not worth following this up.

Environmental (Contd)

The broken fence on Southdown Industrial Estate (see Minutes 31/5/83 Page 5) has now been repaired.

Owing to the very hot weather, there had been no work parties called during the month.

(f) ULVG. Work parties have been monthly, and have been mainly concerned in dealing with the effects of flooding which occurred during the wet spell up to June. The river had eroded channels which have now been filled in. Members of the YHA Luton have assisted in some of the projects including clearing undergrowth and nettles from the sides of the path and the river bank and in dredging up stones to make a gravel surface on the steps below the paddling pool weir.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) It was reported that groups of teenagers were riding motorcycles and emptying litter bins in Rothamsted Park. The Secretary was requested to draw this to the attention of the District Council. JB

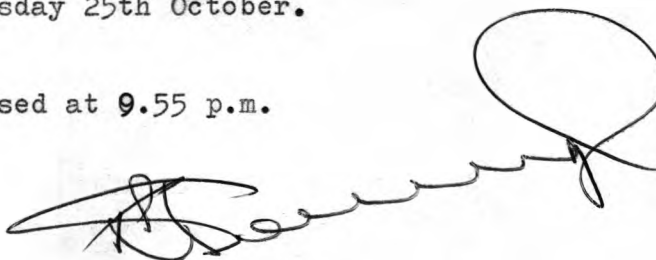
(b) Re the forthcoming recruiting campaign, it was suggested that the same leaflet that is circulated by the Press could be placed in Estate Agents' Offices (with their consent) and aimed at new residents of the area.

(c) A circular had been received from the Council for Voluntary Service for St. Albans District describing the organisation and inviting the Society's membership. The matter to be discussed at the next meeting and meanwhile the Secretary to find out more details. JB

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Tuesday 6th September
Tuesday 25th October.

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.



HARPENDEN SOCIETY

SCHOOLS' ANNUAL ENVIRONMENT AWARD - HARPENDEN

Dear (Head's name)

The Harpenden Society proposes to award two trophies annually, one to Senior schools, and one to Junior Mixed Infants.

We hope that the presentation of this annual award will encourage children to become more aware of their local environment, and the importance of their own valuable contribution to making Harpenden a pleasanter place to live in.

The panel of judges from the Society will be looking for evidence of a caring attitude towards the general appearance of school grounds, and freedom from litter, not only of the playground and playing field, but also cycle sheds, car park, service area, games pavillion, and other out-buildings.

The control of hedges and grass cutting will not be included, as responsibility for their maintenance is the Education Authority's.

In addition, the outer school boundaries will ~~also~~ be examined for windblown litter, as will also the paths and roads in the vicinity of the schools.

Any environmental project initiated and maintained by individual schools will receive special consideration,

eg Tree planting scheme, school garden or allotment,
ecological corner, pond etc.

Judging will normally take place three times a year, once a term.

Schools will be informed in May of the results, and the winners announced.

Presentation of the awards will take place before the May Spring holiday.

The ^{names of} winning schools will be engraved on the trophies,

Each school will also receive a summary of the panel's impressions and comments.

Trophies are to be returned to the Society at the end of the Easter Term.

A representative of the Society will contact you shortly before the panel's proposed visit to your school, but there should be no need to interrupt the general activities of the school, and the panel hopes to be as unobtrusive as possible. Any special projects initiated by the school can be explained over the phone when the intended visit is announced.

If you have any queries, please contact
who is the Awards organiser.

Yours sincerely

?

.....

NOTE It is suggested that copies of this letter in final form be sent to (a) Chief Education Officer, County Hall ^{or} (b) Divisional Education Officer, St. Albans with an explanation of what we are proposing, and asking these Officers if we have their support.

SCHOOLS' ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

Suggestions for consideration :-

First letter to local schools informing Heads of the Award competition should be sent in late September/early October 1983.

The following schools to be notified:- State-aided/State-run schools

Secondary St Georges, Sir John Lawes, Roundwood Park. (3)

JMI Crabtree, Manland, St Nicholas, St Dominics, Batford, Grove, Lea, High Beeches, Woodend, Roundwood. (10)

not included in the competition are the Independent schools,

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as the conditions, number of pupils, type and use of buildings, general maintenance and upkeep of grounds etc is not comparable to those of the State schools

Presentation of the Awards - to take place prior to the half term holiday of the SUMMER TERM (before senior pupils leave school, and summer holidays affect attendance) (after public examinations) (infants and junior schools)

There would be a SENIOR and JUNIOR award.

JUDGING would normally take place 3 times a year, once every term, at the following times:-

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2nd half of Spring Term

- when, in the warmer weather, children scatter more widely throughout the school playgrounds and fields.

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JUDGES - composed of 3 members of the Harpenden Society (a larger number could be obtrusive and inconvenient from the point of view of the schools).

None of the members of the judging panel should be associated with the schools in a personal or official capacity ie parents, governors, teachers, ancillary staff etc.

One of the members of the panel should be an officer of the Society.

As a courtesy, school Heads would be informed of the proposed visits of the panel a few hours beforehand, but not long enough to organise a grand 'tidy-up'!

An agreed number of points would be allocated to various aspects general care, the following are categories which could be expanded or retracted according to the committees feelings :-

General appearance inside the grounds - to include playground, playing field, cycle sheds, pavillions, kitchen area, car park, etc.

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Freedom from vandalism/graffiti - seats, benches, fences, play equipment, entrance doors, timber sheds etc.

Supply of litter bins in school grounds - and evidence of their use.

Special projects - Bonus marks for campaigns initiated by the school itself, ie (concerned with the tree planting, nature study corners or ponds, environment) school allotment, form garden etc.

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2 MEMBERS OF THE PANEL SHOULD REMAIN CONST. DURING THE YEAR
THE 3RD MEMBER COULD CHANGE IF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE IT

(*)



The Harpenden Society

9 HAWTHORN CLOSE
HARPENDEN
HERTS.
AL5 1HN
TEL. HARPENDEN 4693

29th September 1983

Dear

Owing to changed circumstances, I regret that it is necessary to alter the date of our next Committee meeting from Tuesday 25th October to Tuesday 1st November. Please amend your diary.

I do hope that this will not cause you any inconvenience and that you will be able to attend the meeting. It will take place as usual at Harpenden Hall.

The October Newsletter should be "on its way" fairly soon but as yet I have no material. If you have any items for publication may I please have them by 14th October. Many thanks.

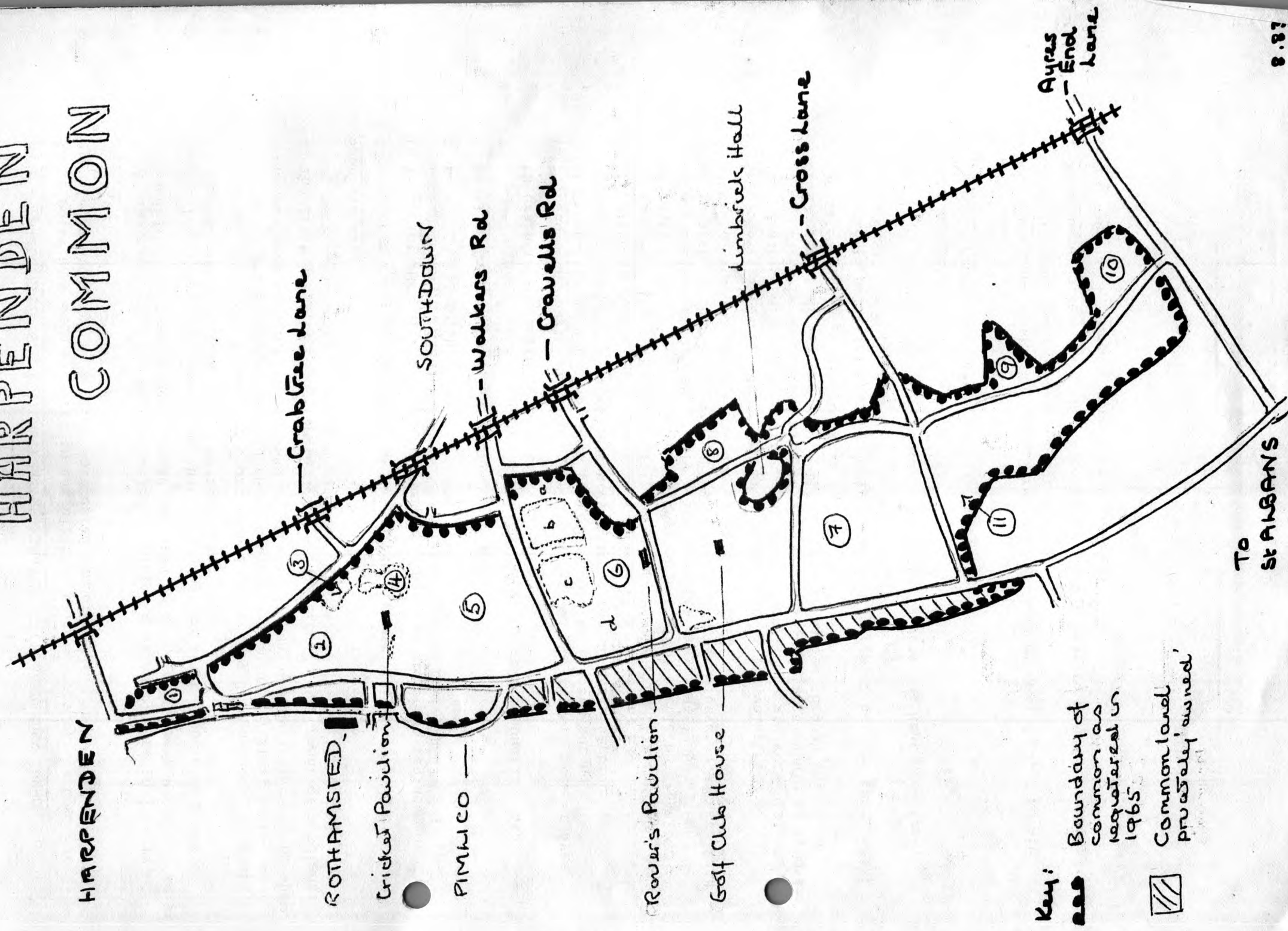
Kind regards,

Sincerely,

Jack

H.J. Bush,
Hon Secretary.

HARPENDEN COMMON



HARPENDEN SOCIETY: SUGGESTIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF HARPENDEN COMMON

These notes have been prepared in consultation with members of the Commons and Greens Group and some other interested members of the Society.

General

1. A management plan for the whole area registered as commonland in 1965 is needed. The Town Council should be urged to do this and give publicity to it.
2. The Town Council's resolution that no non-native plants should be planted anywhere on this land should be reaffirmed.
3. All the areas not leased for sport should be broadly designated as woodland, scrub or grassland and managed to retain them as such. Vistas, paths and horse-rides should be maintained by annual cutting of wide swathes along them.
4. The first priority should be to prevent any further development of woodland: in many areas young saplings need to be cut out (see below for details).

Specific Areas

(The numbers refer to the areas marked on the accompanying map)

1. Triangle: Grassland: regularly mown. There should be no replacement tree planting. A scrub screen for parking area on Leyton Road needs to be considered further.
2. Baa-lamb Trees: Grassland: regularly mown.
3. Ponds: These require urgent attention by the District Council. Saplings in drain to the north need to be removed.
4. Southdown Spinney: Developing woodland: should be kept to present area: some saplings from the southern section should be cut out but no trees should be trimmed-up as was recently done on the northern section.
5. Queen's Road Commonland: Grassland: needs to be mown for hay once a year in summer. Any small areas of scrub should be cut down to allow for ease of cutting, but the gorse breaks alongside the A1081 should be preserved as a useful snow barrier. Only a few specimen trees should be allowed to develop in this barrier. All saplings and trees alongside Walkers Road should be removed and the bramble barrier retained.
6. St. John's Piece: Woodland and grassland: the fast developing wood (b) should not be allowed to encroach any further on to the grassland (a) which should be maintained with regular mowing. Saplings should be removed from the edge of Walkers Road. If a vista is needed through this area the trees should be cleared from it.

The Prickle Dells (c) need some clearance in the centre but the surrounding scrub should be retained.

The Akers Corner area (d) should be mown once a year and kept tree free.
7. Golf Course:
8. Eastmoor Heathland: (Further consultation needed)
9. Bamville:
10. Ayres End Lane Wood: Woodland: recently cleared of dead wood. Retain as mature wood with maintained horse-ride.
11. Cross Lane Horse-ride: Needs to be cut once a year to keep wide track.
12. West Common: (Further consultation needed)

F.J.M.
Sept. 1983.

HARPENDEN SOCIETY

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2 members of the panel should remain constant during the year the 3rd member could change if circumstances require it.

*

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee meeting to be held on Tuesday 6th September 1983 at Harpenden
Hall at 7.45 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Council for Voluntary Service.
5. Schools Competition. Mrs. Wang unable to attend. See attached notes re general plan, and draft letter to School Heads.
6. Priorities for Management of the Common.
7. Recruiting campaign. October Newsletter.
8. Items of interest from District Council Minutes.
9. Reports from Groups:-
 - Plans
 - Commons and Greens
 - Southdown
 - Environmental
 - Transport
 - ULVG
10. Any other business.
11. Dates of next meetings.



THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday 6th September 1983
at Harpenden Hall

Present:- Mr. K. Jennings in the Chair.
Mr. J. Bush, Mrs. S. Bush, Mr. R. Dixon, Mr. S. Gaubert,
Mrs. A. Godfrey, Mr. J. Holderness, Dr. F.J. Moore, ✓ Mr. E Ward.
Mr. L. PEPPER

Apologies for absence received from Mr. S. Bastow and Mr. I. McNicoll.

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 26th July were agreed and signed as a correct record.

2. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Gypsy Site Mr. Ward reported that he had received some enquiries from the Press. The Secretary reported that he had received advice from Cllr. Curl to the effect that the District Council have no real preference for any one of the 4 suggested sites and that they are awaiting a decision from the County Council.

(b) Nicky Line The Secretary read a letter from the District Council suggesting that the Society's monetary contribution be used to provide information boards along the route, showing a map of the route and places of interest around, the boards to have a plaque acknowledging the Society's contribution. The Committee expressed favourable opinions about the idea of boards, but it was felt that we should discuss with the Council the type of board to be used, having in mind durability, vandalism, etc. Mrs. Godfrey reported that owners of property adjoining the line have been approached by the Council regarding maintenance of the embankment backing on to their properties. It was agreed that Mrs. Godfrey would discuss with the District Council (1) our point about information boards (2) to find out what surface the path will have (3) to ask if the Council has considered our previous suggestion to ban horses and motorcycles and (4) to obtain further details about embankment maintenance by adjoining residents.

(c) Leyton Road shrubs Dr. Moore reported that apparently the Society is expected to do the planting work. This will be discussed by the Commons and Greens Group and reported further at the next Committee meeting.

(d) Constitution Mr. Pepper stated that from a study of the wording any one Member could request a Special General Meeting (for good reason) and that he did not feel that the Constitution needed amendment on this account.

(e) The Secretary reported having received the ^{insurance} policy documents and that the cover was now in full force.

(f) Transport Group Mrs. L. Wang had volunteered to join this Group.

3. COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE The Secretary described the aims and objectives of the organisation, the important one from the Society's point of view being the registering of people who wish to do voluntary work and the societies which need help, and the bringing together of these parties. It was decided that the Society should become affiliated to this organisation (fee ~~3.55~~ 15) and the Secretary was instructed to proceed.

4. SCHOOLS COMPETITION Copies of Mrs. Wang's notes and draft letter to School Heads (attached to these minutes) had been circulated to Members and these were discussed. It was decided that Mrs. Wang and Mrs. Godfrey should approach the Divisional Education Officer before any further action was taken.

5. PRIORITIES FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMON. Dr. Moore circulated to the Committee a map and a list of suggestions dealing with this matter. It was mentioned that the Town Council Commons and Greens Committee were due to meet on 3rd October and Dr. Moore would report at the next Committee meeting. Meanwhile Committee members were asked to consider the listed suggestions and bring up at the next meeting any further ideas and comments.
6. RECRUITING CAMPAIGN Mr. Ward to prepare a draft of a recruiting leaflet to be circulated by the Press and to approach the Review and the Advertiser for a quotation of the cost of circulation. Mr. Ward also to prepare a paragraph for the October Newsletter which will enclose copies of the recruiting form already held in stock by Mrs. Bush.
7. DISTRICT COUNCIL MINUTES. The Secretary reported the following items of interest taken from the Minutes of the District Council meetings:-
 - (i) The Council considered complaints from Southdown Road traders regarding the pedestrian crossing and the loss of parking space adjacent to their shops. It was decided that, in the circumstances, nothing could be done.
 - (ii) Planning applications for side extensions to dwellings which result in the loss of garage or parking space lead to increased street parking and requests to build garages in front gardens. The policy in future will be to refuse such applications.
 - (iii) Small Unit Industrial Accomodation. An appendix to a report, previously designated confidential, is now available for public release. (Since this might contain useful information, Mr. Gaubert will try to obtain a copy.)
 - (iv) There is a proposed compromise regarding the pending enforcement action in connection with land at the rear of 175 Westfield Road.
 - (v) Inspector's Report on District Plan. It was resolved that 10th Oct. next be a provisional target date for consideration of the suggested modifications to the District Plan.
 - (vi) The Council is not satisfied with the Contractors for the clearing of bottle banks. Money is having to be spent clearing glass spillage which should be the Contractor's task. The Council decided to renew the contract for 6 months only, and investigate the possibility of a new contractor.
 - (vii) Bedfordshire County Structure Plan. There is a proposal to exclude Caddington and Slip End from the Green Belt, and also to designate *certain* green areas south of Luton for industrial use. The Council strongly opposes this and maintains that there must be no incursion into the narrow green strip between Beds. and St. Albans district. The Council further opposes any expansion of Luton Airport traffic if this would cause problems of noise, traffic, housing or employment. (The Chairman will write to the Council expressing the Society's support for their stand.)
 - (viii) Planning applications within conservation areas. It was resolved that in future these must have comments from Conservation/Design Officers.
 - (ix) Roof top car park, Bowers Way. A chain link fence is to be erected on the parapet wall to prevent the throwing of objects from the car park. A new ticket machine is to be installed in view of frequent breakdowns of the existing one.

- (x) Waitrose Planning Application. The Council agreed to a number of requirements for acceptance of this plan. These are incorporated in a contract, a copy of which is held by our Plans Group.

8. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

- (a) Plans. The following planning applications were commented on:-

5/1175/83 Claygate Nursery - caravan.
 5/1107/83 Waitrose - shopfront
 5/1134/83 do. discharging Condition 415
 5/1056/83 Extension 19 Ashley Gardens
 5/1062/83 Plot 2, rear Orchardbury, Oakhurst Ave
 5/1088/83 Plot 1, do.
 5/1238/83 Extension to Cricket Pavilion, Harpenden Common
 5/1103/83 Harpenden Station. In general this plan is welcomed, but there are some reservations on landscaping.
 5/1122/83 Ogglesby's new garage on cinema site. Some questions have been asked about this.
 5/0229/83 Lea Squash Club. An amended plan has now been accepted, but this was never on display at Harpenden Hall, and the Society had no opportunity to comment thereon. A complaint has been made to the District Council. Copies of similar letters of complaint from Leafield Residents' Assn. and ULVG were produced.

Station House. An informal draft plan for demolition and rebuilding has been accepted by the Council without any prior public knowledge of the matter. The Society has complained to the Council about the manner in which this was handled. Also produced were copies of letters from Messrs Clark and Whelen to the Victorian Society, and from that Society to the Council.

District Plan - Inspector's Report. The Plans Group has written to the Council expressing concern over Batford conservation area, and Green Belt, the wording of the "non-residential use" clause and Harpenden Lodge.

A copy of the Government's circular on the Green Belt has been obtained. There has been correspondence with a Society Member who is concerned about landscaping and trees on the Waitrose car park. It is felt that our replies should have satisfied him.

- (b) Commons and Greens No report other than Item 5 of these Minutes.

- (c) Southdown. Mr. ^{Wag}Truslove referred to a letter from Mr. McKenna regarding the Cravells Road car park. This invited suggestions for discussion. A reference was also made to the "unofficial footpath" on the edge of the Southdown green with the suggestion that shrubs might be planted there to stop pedestrian use. The Committee felt that shrubs would be undesirable and that a better plan would be to move the posts and chain to the roadside edge of the grass.

- (d) Transport No report. Mrs. Wang has volunteered to join this Group.

- (e) Environmental Litter has been cleared from the garden of Sancell House and the side passage of "The George". A further letter from B.R. regarding tree lopping at the Station was produced. This does not really satisfy the questions asked, but the Committee felt that no purpose would be served by pursuing the matter further.

It was reported that under the District Plan:-

1. Batford Springs has at our request received recognition and designation as a nature reserve.

2. Although Kinsbourne Green Common is privately owned, it is proposed to include this in a District Council survey of commons to examine ways of conserving existing and providing additional wildlife and vegetation habitat.

Attention was again drawn to excessive shop advertising by window posters and boards, etc. on the pavement. The Secretary was requested to write to the District Council to see if some formula and practice could be defined.

- (f) ULVG No work parties during August. On 3rd and 4th September repairs were carried out to the fence around the plantation of young willows between the footbridge and the sluice. On the latter date the work parties included some members of the Luton YHA and in addition to work on the fence, vegetation on the footpath opposite Batford Mill was cut back and branches of willows broken off in the gale were cleared up. The Group is to hold a public meeting at All Saints Hall on Friday 28th October at 7.30 p.m. (NOTE. This has later been changed to Thursday 24th November.)

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) The Secretary reported having received from the Harpenden Housewives' Register a request for a speaker at a forthcoming meeting. After consulting the Chairman, Lady Bawden was invited and agreed to speak on the work of the Society at a meeting in early October.

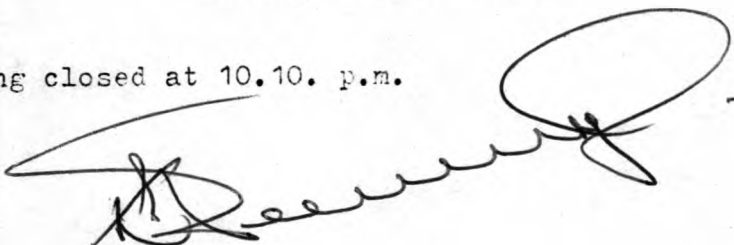
(b) Mrs. Bush reported that, following the recent follow-up of unpaid subscriptions, 105 members had paid, a few notified cancellation and 95 are still unpaid. Total sum received - £212.

(c) The Secretary produced a copy of an article dealing with the legal aspects of Charities. This was passed to Mr. Pepper for later comment.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 25th October (later amended to 1st November)
Tuesday 22nd November

The meeting closed at 10.10. p.m.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to the Secretary, is written across the bottom of the page.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee meeting to be held on Tuesday 1st November at Harpenden Hall
at 7.45 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Recruiting drive - Press circulation. Mr. Ward to report.
5. Nicky Line.
6. Green Belt.
7. Town Council Minutes.
8. Reports from Groups:-
 - Plans
 - Commons and Greens
 - Southdown
 - Environmental
 - Transport
 - ULVG
9. Any other business.
10. Dates of next meetings.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee meeting to be held on Tuesday 22nd November 1983 at Harpenden
Hall at 7.45 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Press Circularisation.
5. Newsletter preparation and distribution.
6. Points of interest from District Council Minutes - see notes attached.
7. Dates of meetings 1984/5 session.
8. Reports from Groups:-
 - Plans
 - Commons and Greens
 - Southdown
 - Environmental
 - Transport
 - ULVG
9. Any other business.
10. Dates of next meetings.

Points of interest from District Council Minutes.

1. The Health Committee discussed the matter of stubble burning, and it was agreed that the Council should contact other District Councils and local M.P's to lobby support for stronger legislation.
2. The Council has been advised by the Ministry of Agriculture that tree preservation orders can apply only to trees and not to shrubs, hedges, etc. Decided that the local M.P. be asked to press for legislation to give District Councils greater control over hedgerows.
3. Following an offer by B.R., the Council agreed to purchase the "Ambrose Lane Triangle" at a price of £10,000, subject to a lease of part thereof to the Brambleton Model Railway Club. The site to be used as an amenity area, and the cost to be covered by savings within the Railway Paths Project.
4. Planning and Development Committee has discussed the recent Government circulars "Land for Housing" and "Green Belt." The reported discussion indicates that the Council propose to proceed with caution and care on any question of using former green belt land for development. Some doubts were expressed as to the capacity of "unidentified sites" referred to in the Inspector's Report. It was also noted that the District Plan does not include adequate provision for land for leisure, social and community uses, but the Council was not prepared to designate any areas for such purposes, but would consider applications on their individual merits.
5. The Council has agreed to lease 12 spaces in the Bowers Way East car park to the Conservative Club for 6 months whilst building works affect their own car park. A long-term arrangement on these lines was not agreed.
6. Vehicle parking generally in Harpenden was referred to by several sub-Committees, and it was stated that the whole matter is under review by the Council and the Police. A "blitz" on pavement parking was also discussed. It was pointed out that "Parking Standards" forming part of the District Plan were based on data many years old, and that an up-date of this is necessary.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday, 1 November 1983 at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Mr. K. Jennings in the Chair
Mr. S. Bastow, Mr. & Mrs. J. Bush, Mr. R. Dixon, Mrs. A. Godfrey,
Mrs. P. Morwood, Mr. L. Pepper and Mr. E. Truslove.

In attendance Mr. Matthews representing Mr. S. Gaubert.

Apologies for absence received from Mr. V. Clough, Mr. S. Gaubert, Mr. J. Holderness, Dr. F.J. Moore and Mr. E. Ward.

ACTION

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 6 September 1983 were agreed and signed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:-

Attendance: Mr. L. Pepper to be listed as attending the meeting on 6 September 1983.

Reports from Groups - (c) Southdown: "Mr. Ward (not Mr. Truslove) referred to a letter from Mr. McKenna"

2. MATTERS ARISING

1. Gypsy Site. The District Council had rejected the suggested gypsy site. Mrs. Godfrey had contacted the District Council but Mr. Hughes, who was dealing with the matter, was unavailable for comment.

2. Leyton Road - Planting of Shrubs. The Commons & Greens Group did not recommend the planting of shrubs. A letter had been received from Mr. Knight inviting the Society to a meeting of the Town Council to select the type of shrub proposed to be planted. The Secretary to write to Mr. Knight stating the view of the Society's Commons & Greens Group.

J.B.

3. Council for Voluntary Service. The secretary drew the attention of the Committee to the Council's Newsletter advertising the sale of a duplicator for £25 and a number of books which could be of interest to the Society.

4. Schools Competition. An approach had been made to the Divisional Education Officer and Mrs. Godfrey and Mrs. Wang were meeting his deputy on 10 November 1983.

A.G.
L.W.

5. Priorities for Management of the Common. Dr. Moore had handed to the Secretary an article, including a map, for the Newsletter inviting comments from the membership.

J.B.

6. Advertising. The Secretary had received a reply to his letter to the District Council. There are no regulations on the area of shop window advertising material, but displays (boards, baskets etc.) on the pavement are an infringement, unless planning consent has been given. It was decided that representations should be made only where there is an obstruction i.e. pedestrians having to walk in the road, or a significant part of the pavement obstructed.

ACTION

7. Station House. In answer to the Society's representations on the acceptance of the draft plan by the District Council, Martin Bacon stated that acceptance of an informal plan does not necessarily mean that the final plan will be approved. (Mrs. Wang's letter to the Press was written as a resident and not on the Society's behalf.) Mr. Dixon thought, and the Committee agreed, that the Society should be permitted to inspect informal plans. The Secretary to contact the District Council expressing this view and enquiring whether it was the policy not publicly to display informal plans.

J.B.

3. RECRUITING CAMPAIGN

In the absence of Mr. Ward the Secretary submitted a draft folder outlining the Society's activities, designed by Mr. Ward. The cost of printing (double sided A4 10,000 copies) would be £174, not to include plating, and a more realistic cost would be £220. Distribution by the Review would be £15 per 1,000 copies. Assuming delivery is made to approx. 10,000 houses (£150) the total cost is about £400 for the project. The Committee thought the folder should include membership application form. Alternatives suggested were separate printing and circulation, paid advertisement in the Review and circulation by the G.P.O. After discussion it was decided to refer the matter back to Mr. Ward to explore the possibility of distribution by the G.P.O. as a more effective way of bringing the activities of the Society to the notice of householders.

E.W.

4. NICKY LINE

It was reported by the Secretary that the District Council were arranging a meeting of all organisations who have shown an interest, or been involved in the Nicky Line. Mr. Pepper and Mrs. Godfrey would attend this meeting, together with a representative from the U.L.V.G. Work was progressing well, rubbish and debris had been cleared to 4.5 metres wide and will be appropriately dressed, suitable for a cycleway. Moreton End Lane bridge will be taken down for use elsewhere by the County Council and trees will be thinned on the embankment facing Park Hill. Mr. Ellis, Project Manager, will contact owners as to whether they would be interested to maintain/buy land/embankment which adjoins their properties. Every effort will be made to see that access points are not negotiable to either motor cycles or horses. The signal is to be reinstated in working order and this site might be suitable for the Society's information board; a board similar to that at Holcroft Springs had been recommended to Mr. Ellis by Mrs. Godfrey. On completion of all works the project would be handed over to a Management Committee made up of local interested bodies. Mrs. Godfrey tabled a letter from the Tree Council offering help.

L.P.
A.G.

5. GREEN BELT

The Secretary produced minutes of a special meeting of the Herts. Federation of Amenity Societies and a Newsletter of the Hertfordshire Society, giving views and fears on the Government Circular re Green Belt. The Society is affiliated and subscribes to both these organisations and it was agreed the Secretary should write expressing the Society's support for the stand they are taking.

J.B.

6. TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Entrance to Rothamsted Park. The Committee endorsed the views of the Town Council on the inconsiderate parking.

Copper Beech, Rothamsted Experimental Station. Councillor Mrs. Stella Curl had asked for the Society's views on an application for the felling of a copper beech tree by Rothamsted for easier access. The District Council also were of the opinion that this would be necessary if certain "improved" roadworks were carried out. The Transport and Commons & Greens Groups are to meet and report back to the Committee.

F.J.M.
V.C.

7. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

1. Plans. The following applications were reported on:-

5/1365/83	Detached house adjoining 10 Salisbury Avenue
5/1382/83	New shop front 60 High Street
5/0616/83	Extension Harpenden Moat House Hotel
5/1134/83	Waitrose car park and landscaping
5/1430/83	Demolition and redevelopment Station House
5/1440/83	Station House. (Society objects to demolition of existing building which has no structural defects and is urging the Railway Board to refurbish.)

2. Commons & Greens. The Secretary presented Dr. Moore's report.

(a) A1081 - R.E.S. entry. No decision has yet been reached on the possible widening of the R.E.S. approach road. This could involve the cutting down of mature trees (see minute 6).

(b) Cricket Club Pavilion Extension. Subject to approval of plans for extension, Town Council approval had been given for an area of the Common to be used.

(c) Priorities for winter work. Cleaning paddock/woodland near Limbrick Hall, renovation of path Southdown/Queens Road, clearing "footpath" next to Brickle Dells and general clearance of Sycamore woodland in front of Pimlico.

(d) Leyton Road - Parking of cars on Common land. The Committee agreed with the Group that no screen was needed (see minute 2.2). It was felt that as the new trees mature the lower branches will help to detract the eye from the cars. The Group thought that perhaps log barriers would prevent further encroachment.

3. Southdown. Mr. Truslove had been unable to contact Mr. McKenna on the Society's suggestion that shrubs might be planted but hoped to do so shortly. The Group had considered the latest proposals for Cravells Road car park and their view was that the Society should give these whole-hearted support. Trees in the Fine Fare car park which had broken from their stakes have now been secured.

E.T.

4. Environmental

Green Lawns Garage. Mrs. Godfrey would enquire when the

A.G.

ACTION

planting (a condition of planning) would be carried out.

Common verge adjoining Green Lawns. Mrs. Godfrey to ascertain whether the District Council had completed their purchase of this land.

A.G.

Road Name Plates. Satisfactory progress, but the illegible "Sun Lane" sign is in urgent need of replacement.

5. Transport. Mr. Clough had informed the Secretary that he had now sufficient members (Mrs. Wang had now joined this Group) to form a group and would convene a meeting shortly.

V.C.

6. U.L.V.G. Work parties have continued with repair and maintenance work, including the fence around the plantation of young willows between Marquis Lane playing field pool and the River Lea. At Batford Ford a seat was attached to the railings leading to the footbridge in memory of Mr. Bert Derret. The next public meeting has been postponed to 24 November when the speaker will be Paul Arnold on the subject of woodland lore.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Newsletter. The Chairman raised the question of the distribution of the Newsletter and thought more support and assistance should be given to Mr. and Mrs. Bush. Mrs. Bush would look at ways of dividing the work of delivering the Newsletter to the 34 distributors.

S.B.

Mrs. Bush would be resigning from the Committee next March, but would be happy to continue with the membership duties.

S.B.

Press Officer. There was a discussion when it was decided it was essential for the Society to appoint a Press Officer. The Secretary would invite Mr. Paul Usher to become Press Officer and if he was agreeable he would be invited to attend the next meeting. If Mr. Usher felt unable to take on these duties Mr. Pepper would ask Ann Russell. If both these approaches failed Mr. Pepper agreed to act as the Society's Press/Publicity Officer.

J.B.

L.P.

L.P.

An additional copy of the Newsletter to be sent to Juliet Wiley of the Herts. Advertiser.

J.B.

Seminar. Mrs. Godfrey reported her attendance at this Seminar at the end of September showing the film "Who Cares". This film is available for use by the Society.

Heritage Outlook. In this publication Canon are offering to supply copiers to registered societies for an installation charge of £25 after which there is a charge of 1½p a copy, with the Society purchasing its own paper (£1.75 a ream A4). The Treasurer was not present, but the Committee thought this cost was in excess of the Society's present copying charges.

U.N.A. Service, 23 October 1983. Mr. and Mrs. Truslove and Lady Bawden attended, representing the Society.

Spotlight on Leisure, 29/30/31 March 1984. The Committee were unanimous that the Society should be represented. The cost of two spaces would be £18 + £1 for an additional

ACTION

electric point. It was hoped there would be more advance publicity this year.

Meeting, 7 December 1983. Martin Bacon would speak, the subject "Planning on a Treadmill". Hopefully District Councillors Mrs. Moody and Sparrow would attend, together with Councillor Murray, Chairman Harpenden Town Council. The question of hosts for visitors would be discussed at the next meeting. Mrs. Godfrey asked for an invitation to this meeting to be extended to members of the St. Albans Civic Society, and this was agreed.

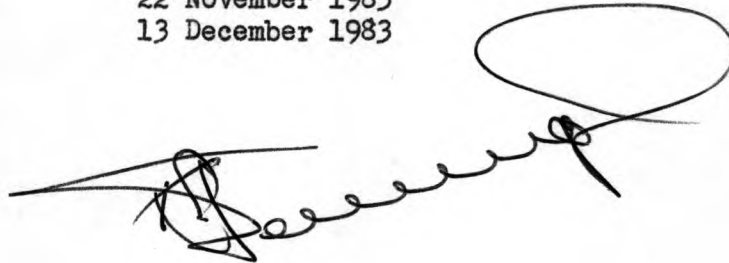
J.B.

J.B.

Booking of Public Hall. It was recorded that Mr. Truslove would be indemnified by the Society in respect of any liability arising out of his application(s) (on behalf of the Society) to hire the Public Hall.

9. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

22 November 1983
13 December 1983

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. B. Godfrey', with a large loop at the end of the signature.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday, 22 November 1983 at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Mr. K. Jennings in the Chair
Mr. & Mrs. J. Bush, Cllr. C. Curl, Mrs. A. Godfrey, Dr. F.J. Moore,
Mrs. P. Morwood, Mr. E. Truslove and Mr. E. Ward.

In attendance Mr. L.J.G. Mathews representing Mr. S. Gaubert.

Apologies for absence received from Mr. S. Bastow, Mr. R. Dixon, Mr. S. Gaubert and Mr. L. Pepper.

ACTION

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 1 November 1983 were agreed and signed as a correct record subject to the following amendment:-

Seminar (page 4): The full title of this Seminar should read "H.C.C. Annual Monitoring Seminar".

2. MATTERS ARISING

1. Leyton Road - Planting of Shrubs. The Secretary confirmed that he had received an acknowledgment from Mr. Knight to his letter giving the views of the Commons and Greens Group.

2. Schools Competition. Mrs. Wang and Mrs. Godfrey attended the meeting with the Deputy Education Officer. If the Society put forward a new project this would be favourably received, but since the purpose was to encourage schools to do their own *housekeeping* projects i.e. look after their grounds and environment, the meeting did not have a very satisfactory result. Dr. Moore said there had been a suggestion (not yet pursued) for schools to ~~look~~ *might compete with* ~~after an area(s) of~~ the Common, but this had not yet been discussed by the Commons & Greens Group. Possibly this idea could be extended to the Lea Valley and Kinsbourne Green areas. Dr. Moore would report back after the meeting of the Commons & Greens Group.

Projects relating to

F.J.M.

3. Nicky Line. The meeting referred to in the previous minutes would not be a public meeting. It would consist of representatives of organisations who have shown an interest or wished to be involved.

4. Green Belt. The Secretary had written to the Herts. Federation of Amenity Societies and the Hertfordshire Society supporting their campaign to protect the Green Belt and rural England.

5. Copper Beech, Rothamsted Experimental Station. Dr. Moore had been away and the issue had not been explored fully by the Commons & Greens Group. As visibility was quite good, Cllr. Curl was of the view that it was unnecessary to widen the road and cut down the tree.

6. Green Lawns Garage. Mrs. Godfrey had enquired of the District Council the position with regard to landscaping. There are complications due to two or three landowners being involved. The land purchase/has not been completed, but Mr.

of Kinsbourne Green

ACTION

Pigott has offered the land for sale to the District Council for £100. The landscaping will be carried out when all legal formalities are resolved. An application by Whitbreads to buy some of this land for a car park has been refused.

7. Press Officer. Mr. Paul Usher is to let the Secretary know whether he feels able to become the Society's Press Officer, though due to his other commitments it was probable that he would decline. Mr. Pepper had indicated that it was unlikely that Ann Russell could act as Press Officer and he pointed out that he would be retiring from the Committee next March. After discussion, and in the event of a negative from Mr. Usher, Mr. Pepper had offered to undertake the immediate duties of Press Officer.

L.P.

Valerie Carroll has now left the Herts. Advertiser. After appointment of the Press Officer Juliet Wiley to be informed.

J.B.

8. Spotlight on Leisure, 29/30/31 March 1984. This year's theme to be discussed at the next meeting. A condition when applying for a stand is that each exhibitor provide a helper. Mr. Bush would undertake this duty on Wednesday, 28 March 1984.

J.B.

J.B.

9. Membership. The Committee formally accepted Mrs. Bush's offer to continue as Membership Secretary although leaving the Committee next March (see item 8, para 2 previous minutes).

S.B.

3. PRESS CIRCULARISATION

Mr. Ward reported that the G.P.O. would make a charge of £28 per 1,000 for delivery of the Society's folder, much in excess of the charge made by the Review. He had had two meetings with Cllr. Mrs. Stella Curl on the suggestion that two pages only (previously 4 pages) be added to the next issue of the Town Council's Forum (15 March 1984) with the Society meeting the cost of printing the additional material and distribution, approx. £200. It was thought Gwen Marr would do thumbnail sketches with less text. A tear-off membership application form for return to Harpenden Hall would be attached. It was unanimously agreed this was an excellent idea and recorded their thanks and appreciation to the Town Council. Mr. Ward to pursue the matter.

E.W.

4. NEWSLETTER - PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION

The Secretary agreed it would be possible to split the distribution, but was prepared to continue with this duty with Mrs. Bush.

J.B.

S.B.

The pressure was in editing, collating and collecting material, typing and final stapling. Newsletter preparation was discussed and the Chairman and Mr. Ward would help with the stapling of the next issue. Mr. Ward agreed to make an appeal at the next meeting for assistance. Mr. Truslove suggested a letter might be sent to the distributors of the Newsletter, but this was not agreed. If a volunteer came forward this member would be co-opted on to the Committee.

K.J.

E.W.

E.W.

J.B.

ACTION

5. POINTS OF INTEREST FROM DISTRICT COUNCIL MINUTES (copy circulated)

Item 6. The Transport Group would meet shortly to discuss present car parking. Cllr. Curl informed the Committee that there are no parking spaces available in the Station car park after approx. 8.30 a.m. Pressure was needed to encourage the Railway Board to let out more spaces thus assisting 'on-street' parking. Two complaints had been received on street parking in Carlton Road and the Town Council had indicated that after a meeting with the Chief Inspector of Police, a close watch is to be kept on the area.

6. DATES OF MEETINGS 1984/85

The formula should be as 1983/84 - late September late October, early December, early February, middle May.

E.T.

Mr. Truslove would try to book varied days of the week to enable all members to attend. He would ascertain whether the film "Who Cares" (see Minute 8, 1.11.83) was available for showing at one of the Society's meetings.

E.T.

Mr. Ward suggested a 1984 summer excursion i.e. Windsor, Hampstead etc. Mr. Truslove to make appropriate enquiries of Civic Societies.

E.T.

7. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

1. Plans. The following applications were reported on:-

5/1569/83 Harpenden Motors/George Public House. The Society's detailed views had been sent to the District Council. It was considered the scheme showed overdevelopment and the proximity of the proposed building to the building line would destroy the "open look" on entry into the High Street. Parking shown was inadequate, there was too narrow accessway, delivery access unsatisfactory etc. This important site should be developed sympathetically.

5/1427/83 3 houses Amenbury, Amenbury Lane.

5/1574/83 Garage, 2 Highfield Avenue

5/1597/83 Detached chalet house and garage, 14 Moreton End Lane.

Cllr Curl suggested that the Plans Group should be careful not to approve the demolition of buildings.

A letter from Dr. S.D. Holt about a "rumour" to build a supermarket on the site of Harpenden Lodge was tabled. The Secretary to reply that the Society was not aware of any such application.

J.B.

Mr. Edelston, Rothamsted Avenue, had written to the Secretary re landscaping at the Waitrose Site. Mr. Mathews would confer with Mr. Gaubert with a view to reply.

L.M.

ACTION

2. Commons & Greens. This Group had not met and Dr. Moore would report to the next meeting. The bottom pond on the Common had been cleared. Dr. Moore would suggest to the Town Council that this work is carried out annually. Cllr. Curl reported that the "old" toilets on the Common had been removed.

F.J.M.

F.J.M.

3. Southdown. Contact had been made with Mr. McKenna re the planting of shrubs. Mr. Truslove will report to the next meeting when work on the Cravells Road car park is to commence. The crocus bulbs given by Miss C. Southern have now been planted on the Green. Dr. Moore expressed doubt as to the wisdom of bulbs being planted - causing difficulty with grass mowing etc.

E.T.

4. Environmental.

(1) The George passageway cleared.

(2) Replacement tree shortly to be planted Bowers Way East car park.

(3) New street nameplate for Sun Lane in wrong place!! District Council notified.

5. Transport. No report.

6. U.L.V.G. No report.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was with regret that the Committee learnt of the illness of Judge Dow. The Chairman would telephone him with the good wishes of the Society.

K.J.

(1) Correspondence. The Secretary read a letter from the "Heart of Harpenden Campaign" whose aim is to make the Public Hall the hub of Harpenden's social life e.g. showing films etc. The letter to be filed as the Committee did not think the Society could usefully contribute to this campaign.

J.B.

(2) Committee. The Treasurer, owing to other commitments, was unable to attend meetings on a regular basis. He is willing to continue as Treasurer, and the Chairman would request him to provide a financial statement to be read at meetings. Agenda to include Treasurer's report.

K.J.

J.B.

Proposed by Mrs. S. Bush, seconded by Mr. E. Ward that Mr. Mathews be co-opted on to the Committee.

J.B.

(3) Meeting, 7 December 1983. Cllr Curl agreed to act as host. However, should he be required to act as Chairman (in the absence of Judge Dow), Mr. Ward would undertake the duties of host.

C.C.

E.W.

9. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

13 December 1983
17 January 1984.

Ann Goffey
13.XII.83

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETYMarch 1985PHONE

President	Cllr. C.W. Curl	34 Maddon Court, Milton Road.	3449
Vice-Presidents	Mr. E. Ward	4 Birch Way	3179
	Mr. E.P. Wilson	5 Salisbury Road, Batford	4474
	Miss H. Finnie	43 Milton Road	2717
Chairman	Mr. K.P. Jennings	146 Cravells Road	60357
Vice-Chairman	Dr. F. Joan Moore	15 Meadow Walk	4032
Secretary	Mr. H.J. Bush	9 Hawthorn Close	4693
Treasurer	Mr. I.D.G. McNicoll	12 Tintern Close, Kinsbourne Gn.	63398
Committee	Mr. S. Bastow	9 Moreton Avenue	2170
	Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow	12 Croftwell	4785
	Mr. W.G. Haslar	18 Gilpin Green	2524
	Mr. J.A. Holderness	58 Townsend Lane	62847
	Mr. L.J.G. Matthews	8 Meadway	63443
	Mr. A. Mellody	48 Derwent Road, Kinsbourne Gn.	63309
	Mrs. P. Mowbray	1 Fallows Green	62663
	Mr. M.F. Vincent	31 Rothamsted Ave.	4796
	Mrs. L. Wang	16 Ox Lane	60948
	Miss Isobel Leek	20 Park Avenue South	4714
	(Minutes Secretary)		
	Mr. E.H. Truslove	16 Long Buftlers	60736
	(Events Secretary)		
	Mrs. M. Waldren	3 Sibley Avenue	69531
	(Newsletter Editor)		
Group Chairmen	Commons & Greens	Dr. F. Joan Moore	4032
	Plans	Mr. L.J.G. Matthews	63443
	Transport	Mr. W.G. Haslar	2524
	Environmental	Mrs. L. Wang	60948
	Southdown	Mr. E.H. Truslove	60736
	U.L.V. Group	Mrs. E. Catterfeld	60061
	(Secretary - 37 Salisbury Ave)		
Ex. Committee	Mr. J.V.A. Haggard	42 Stewart Road	5606
	(Representative - U.L.V.G.)		
	Mrs. S.R. Bush	9 Hawthorn Close	4693
	(Membership Secretary)		
	Mrs. A. Godfrey	6 Douglas Road	3167
	(Liaison with St. Albans Soc.)		

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held on Tuesday 13th December 1983 at Harpenden
Hall at 7.45 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes ~~of~~ previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Treasurer's report
5. Spotlight 1984. To form a sub-committee and discuss the theme of
our exhibit.
6. Items of interest from the Town Council Minutes. Memo attached.
7. Reports from Groups:-
 - Plans
 - Commons and Greens
 - Southdown
 - Environmental
 - Transport
 - ULVG
8. Any other business
9. Dates of next meetings.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday, 13 December 1983 at 7.45 p.m.

Present: Mrs. A. Godfrey in the Chair
Mr. J. Bush, Mr. L.J.G. Mathews, Dr. F.J. Moore, Mrs. P. Morwood,
Mr. L. Pepper and Mr. E. Ward. *Mr. Trustlove*

Apologies for absence received from Mr. K. Jennings (Chairman), Mr. S. Bastow, Mrs. S. Bush and Mr. R. Dixon.

It was with regret that the Committee learnt of the death on Sunday, 11 December 1983, of the Society's President, Judge Dow. A letter of condolence would be sent by either Cllr. Curl or Mr. Ward on behalf of the Society. It was agreed unanimously that the Secretary would arrange for a floral tribute to the value of £10-15 to be sent by 9.30 a.m. Thursday, 14 December, to Mr. L.C. Weston at 96A Luton Road. Mr. Pepper said Mrs. Pepper would be happy to represent the Society at the funeral service in the event of Cllr. Curl being unable to do so.

The Press had approached the Secretary for an obituary and he had suggested that Cllr. Curl should be contacted.

ACTION

1. MINUTES of the meeting of 22 November 1983 were agreed and signed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:-

Schools Competition

- (i) If the Society put forward a new project this would be favourably received, but since the purpose was to encourage schools to do their own housekeeping projects
- (ii) Dr. Moore stated there had been a suggestion (not yet pursued) that schools might compete with projects based on the Common, but this had not yet

MATTERS ARISING

1. Nicky Line. The Secretary reported that he had not yet heard the date of the proposed meeting. Mr. John Roberts, Ambrose Lane Residents Association, said this Association would not be invited and wished to attend as a member of the Society; this was agreed. Mrs. Godfrey had been advised by Mr. S. Ellis, District Council, that the meeting was expected to take place next year, hopefully in January, and that the County Council will demolish the bridge in January and make a crossover. The Committee required to know the type of access being provided. Plans have been received from the County Council for examination. The Secretary to write to the District (Mr. S. Ellis) and County Councils requesting that barriers are made "motorcycle and horse proof". The surfacing material to be used can be inspected at Ambrose Lane. On completion a "Nicky Line Walk" might be appropriate.
2. Green Lawns Garage. The garage was unable to complete the landscaping as this is bound up with landscaping the whole area of the green, and the transfer of ownership of this is not yet settled.
3. Plans - Demolition. In his absence the Chairman put to the meeting (by the Secretary) his view that the Society should have freedom to judge each application for demolition on individual merits.

J.B.

ACTION

4. Environmental, item 1. In addition to clearing the George passageway the Group had replanted shrubs etc. which had died during the drought.
5. Copper Beech. The County Council plans for the whole area are still awaited.
6. Press Officer. Ann Russell would like a "job specification" before committing herself to undertake these duties. Ideally they should be combined with the editing and preparation of the Newsletter and Mr. Ward would suggest this to her. However, the Committee would be happy for her to undertake the duties of Press Officer only. E.W.
7. Newsletter. An appeal was not made at the meeting on 7 December by Mr. Ward for assistance as he had prior knowledge that Mrs. Russell might be willing to undertake these duties. If not, he will put the appeal forward at the next meeting. E.W.
8. Meetings 1984/85. Mr. Truslove had been successful in obtaining the film "Who Cares". He reported that the cost per seat for the proposed outing would be £2.50. The Committee agreed Saturday/Sunday as appropriate days. Mr. Truslove would be writing to his contacts at Hampstead and Windsor. E.T.
9. Meeting 7 December 1983. The Committee expressed appreciation to Mr. Truslove and helpers for the "pies and punch" contributing to a very successful meeting. Mr. Truslove would write a letter of thanks to the speakers, and it might be appropriate to ask Mr. Bacon to keep the Committee informed of future Green Belt circulars. E.T.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT

This was not available and the Secretary would contact the Chairman (see Minute 8(2) Meeting 22 November 1983). J.B.
4. SPOTLIGHT 1984

The Sub-Committee to have a representative from all Groups - Mr. E. Truslove (Chairman), Mrs. L. Wang, Dr. Moore, Mr. Mathews and Mr. Bush. Mr. Truslove would convene the first meeting early in January. E.T.

Mr. Ward would ask Mr. Meadows for a complete set of pictures of the Embassy Cinema, Harpenden Lodge and the cleaning of the Ponds. He would also request him to take "before" pictures of "The George". At a meeting of the U.L.V.G. the Secretary had asked Mrs. Leishman if she would mount "A History of the U.L.V.G." and had undertaken to deliver two boards to her two weeks before the exhibition. Dr. Moore would liaise with the U.L.V.G. to prepare two panels showing areas of the Common and the Upper Lea Valley. E.W.

A further subject for inclusion could be car parking Carlton Road/Stewart Road, Sun Lane and lorry traffic through Harpenden. Mr. Pepper agreed to take photographs. J.B.

The Society owns 12 panels in all and it may be possible, this year, to use more "backs". L.P.

The theme will be the Group

ACTION

Mr. Truslove suggested forms be made available at the exhibition for the public to complete on matters which they consider need attention. To be considered by the Sub-Committee.

E.T.

5. TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

These will be headed "Items of interest from Minutes of Sub-Committees presented to Town Council Meeting dated".

J.B.

6. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

1. Plans. The following applications were reported on:-

5/1440/83 Station House (revised).

5/1718/83 Harpenden Motors/George Public House. New plans have gone some way to meet earlier recommendations, but the Society would prefer to see a smaller scheme. It was suggested this scheme be ~~shown at the Spotlight Exhibition~~ ^{exhibited} for public comment.

J.B.
~~E.T.~~

5/088A/83 Stimpsons, 42 High Street. Illuminated sign.

5/1639/83 Chalet bungalow adjoining Coleswood.

Mr. Mathews had written to Mr. Edelston on the landscaping of the Waitrose site.

The Secretary had written to Mr. Bacon about informal proposals suggesting the Society might be made aware of these, but the reply states that this would not be practicable.

J.B.

2. Commons & Greens. ^{Commons & Greens Committee} Dr. Moore had "walked" the Common with the Chairman of the Town Council. The Council were opening up a vista from the top of the Common down to the Silver Cup. Dr. Moore had made the point that no trees should be "trimmed up". She will write to the Council as this trimming is still being carried out. At the meeting on 5 December no further progress was made on the entrance to Rothamsted (Copper beech) as plans were still awaited from the County Council (see Minute 2.5 of these minutes).

There was a discussion on lighting being extended to Beesonend Lane which would enable a speed limit to be imposed. Although the safety factors were recognised lighting would spoil the natural appearance of the Common.

A further suggestion was for ^{south} ~~entrance~~ to be cleared in front of Rothamsted but this had not been agreed.

The Management Plan for the Common incorporated many of the Society's suggestions.

3. Southdown. Mr. Truslove reported on the reply he had received to his letter from the District Council. This confirmed that the whole car park, including the area owned by the Brewers, would be available to the public and to customers of the Public House, and that it will be adequately drained. There are no proposals at present to impose parking charges. Work is expected to commence in the New Year with a finish in March. The car park could be a possible contender for the Society's Award, and an item in the next Newsletter.

J.B.

ACTION

The Group had discussed holding a further public meeting on Southdown.

E.T.

Replying to the suggestion that posts bounding the edge of the Green should be moved towards the kerb, Mr. McKenna stated this would not be possible as there is a statutory minimum of 450 mm. between posts and kerb. The planting of shrubs might, however, stop its use as a footpath.

4. Environmental.

Bowers Way. Tree planting completed.

Sun Lane. New name plate on the way.

Fine Fare. 3 oil drums had been dumped at the entrance and were found to belong to the Gas Board. The matter has been raised with the Gas Board.

Akrill House - new flats. The uncompleted landscaping has been reported to the District Council.

Gilpin Green/Granary Lane. The Society had been contacted on this eyesore. Mrs. Wang agreed her Group could undertake to tidy this area and Dr. Moore will report back to the Town Council. The Committee would consider the provision by them of the necessary grass seed.

L.W.

F.J.M.

J.B.

5. Transport. No report.

6. U.L.V.G. The Secretary reported that the Group had various trees available if required.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Printing/copying. The Secretary reported that Madesco are moving on 3 January 1984 to 6 Leyton Road.

(2) Committee. The Chairman proposed to call a meeting of Officers early in the New Year to discuss formation of the new Committee for 1984/85.

(3) Newsletter. The Secretary made an appeal for material for the next Newsletter by 10 January 1984. This Letter will include formal notice of the A.G.M. nominations for Committee and for the Society's Award.

Mr. Pepper suggested the inclusion of an educational item i.e. planning glossary, and Mrs. Godfrey suggested that the District Council be approached for a definition of the extended conservation area. Mr. Pepper to obtain this as first educational contribution.

L.P.

Mr. Truslove suggested an item on Judge Dow giving the length of time he has been with the Society and the offices he has held.

J.B.

(4) Meeting, 17 January 1984. Agenda item - New President.

J.B.

(5) Meeting, 1 February 1984. Cllr. Carl will be giving his talk on the Town Centre Plan.

G.C.

8. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS 17 JANUARY 1984
7 FEBRUARY 1984

[Handwritten signature]
17/1/84

ITEMS OF INTEREST TAKEN FROM MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

1. The Highways Advisory Panel discussed parking in Carlton Road. No definite outcome, but it was stated that there are "some long-term thoughts about this." Regarding the A 1081 near Rothamsted, it was pointed out that speed restrictions cannot be imposed until Harpenden agrees to have street lighting at that point.
2. The Plans Advisory Panel were generally in agreement with the plans for Station House, but a minority felt that there would be undue domination. Regarding No 2 High Street, the Panel do not agree that The George should be demolished, but otherwise the views expressed agree in general with our letter.
3. The General Purposes Committee report that the Lions Club will be unable to carry out that re-painting of the Station Road pedestrian tunnel. It was agreed to approach the Manpower Services Commission.
4. Regarding the Waitrose development, it was confirmed that the Council has granted wayleave over a small area of one of the greens outside the site (exact location not mentioned in the Minutes.)
5. No agreement yet on the entrance to Rothamsted and the fate of the copper beech tree. The Highways Advisory Panel want to widen the whole road with the loss of the tree, and this is the view of the District Council. The County Council would be prepared to widen half the road and retain the tree, some members of the Town Council agree with this. The matter was referred back.
6. The Chairman reported that a number of applications had been received for the post of Town Clerk.