

8/9

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held on 13 Sept 67.

Twelve members attended, Mr Goacher in the chair. Apologies for absence were received from Capt Bond & Messrs Carl, Potter, King, Eccleston, Green, & Miss Firnie. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 July were read & approved. Matters arising, an interim reply had been received from Clerk of the Council on the accessibility of plans. ~~One letter of 23rd July had not yet been considered by the H.P. Committee~~ ^{the County Development Plan} in particular. Copy letter from Surveyor to Mr Morris of 19 Oakfield Rd on the "Chilterns" dev: project, giving an assurance of safeguards. Mr Dixon undertook to look at the revised plans for the project. An appreciative letter had been received from the London Passenger Transport Co-ordinating Committee. Autumn Meeting. The Hon. Sec. reported that the landscape gardener Mrs Ruth Rowntree was not a public speaker. It was suggested that an expert address on some aspect of planning & development would be timely, & the Hon Sec was instructed to invite the County Planning Officer, Mr E.H. Doubleday, to be the guest speaker at the meeting, which would be on 21st Nov.

Correspondence. A letter from Brit. Rail informed us that H. VDC had expressed an interest to purchase the Harpenden East Lim land which came within the Council's boundary. The Hon. Sec. was instructed to enquire of the VDC what they proposed to do with the land if they purchased it. Mr Booth suggested we should attempt to discover whether other amenity societies along the line were interested in its future.

Finance. The Hon. Treas. reported that £50 in 1967 subscriptions had so far been received. He said that a large number of members were still in arrears, & it was agreed that reminders should be

sent to defaulters as soon as possible.

Agenda. The satisfactory result of the St Georges School Footpath enquiry was noted.

The membership drive had not immediately recruited as many new members as had been hoped, but it was noted that the holiday season might have a delaying effect on the response.

Mr Wilson gave a full report on the deliberations of the Development Sub-C'tee, which ~~was now~~ was now prepared to make representations to the Council & to publicize its conclusions & ^{recommendations} representations. The Sub-Committee obtained the approval of the C'tee to proceed on the proposed lines.

A.O.B. A new member had raised the matter of the Harding Parade Gardens. The Hon-Sec was instructed to refer it once more to the Surveyor. A member of the C'tee asked it to consider protesting against the gaudy ~~new~~ shopfront of the new Boutique in Vaughan Rd, but the C'tee was not prepared to discriminate among shopfronts. The CPRE having ~~invited~~ ^{recruited} affiliated societies to support its "Greened the Countryside" project, it was agreed to donate 3 guineas.

Mr Hughes drew attention to the failure of David Chaston's housing development in Sun Lane. After discussion, the Hon Sec was instructed to write to the Clerk enquiring whether the Council had power to tidy up a site left incomplete by a bankrupt ^{contractor}.

Mr David Booth reported that the Luton Airport Sub-Committee was taking observations to ascertain the degree of improper departure paths from the Airport.

Date of next meeting Wed 8 Nov.

And Goucher

8 Nov 65

Minutes of an Executive Committee meeting held on 6 Oct 1967. Col Scott, Mr Milne, Mr Cuel & the Hon. Sec attended, Mr Goacher in the Chair. The Hon. Treas. sent his apology for absence.

The Ch of C'tee, Mr Goacher, had received a letter from Capt Bond dated 25 Sept submitting his resignation from the Presidency of the Society, under the pressure of Council interests & duties. Capt Bond proposed that his resignation should be effective forthwith, so that a new President might be selected & introduced to the members at the Autumn Meeting.

From persons considered, His Honour Judge Ronald Dow was unanimously selected. ~~It was proposed~~ & unanimously agreed that Capt Bond & Mr ^{George} ~~George~~ ^{George} should be made vice-presidents, & that the number of vice-presidents should be limited to three.

Fred Goacher

Nov-8-67

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 8 Nov 1967.

Thirteen members attended, Mr Goacher in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Crowther, Dr Potter, & Messrs Ring, MacLae, Booth, Garrow, Cuel & Hill.

- The minutes of the meeting held on 13 Sept were read & approved.
- The Chairman explained the need for an urgent executive c'tee meeting to select a new president in place of Capt Bond, who had resigned. The minutes of this meeting, which took place on 6 Oct, were read & approved, & the general committee accepted with satisfaction the selection of H.H. Judge Ronald Dow as the new president, his appointment being subject to endorsement at the next AGM.
- Matters Arising. With reference to the St George's School footpath, Mr Hughes undertook to make enquiries as to who was responsible for sign-posting it.

With reference to the proposed development at The Chilterns, Mr Dixon expressed his view that the revised plan for a reduced number of houses was appropriate to the situation.

With reference to the future use of the Welwyn-Luton railway line, the Hon. Sec. was instructed to write to the Clerk of the Council asking for more information about the Council interests & intentions.

Correspondence. A letter had been received from the Hon. Sec. of the St Albans & District Footpath Society inviting our interest in their activities & drawing our attention to an open meeting on 24 Nov. Mr Rosevear, who had recently joined the Society, explained that it was essentially a walkers' club. The Hon. Sec. to put our specially marked footpath map of the Harpenden area at their disposal.

Finance. Through the Hon. Sec the Hon. Treas reported that subscription received to date amounted to £90, as compared with £73 in 1966 & £51 in 1965. The Hon. Sec. considered the increase was due to the ~~increase~~ revised subscription rates & the memberships drive & to the effectiveness of the reminder notices, which were being issued for the first time. Cash at bank, £76-14-7. There was a loss of 2/8 on the Annual Outing.

Agenda. A long & informative letter had been received from the Clerk in reply to ours pressing for more information about development plans. Mr Eccleston gave the ~~very~~ background to the Council's attitude as based on the regulations, but the Committee as a whole were determined to pursue the line proposed by the Dev. Sub-Committee. The sub-committee

would formulate a reply to the Clerk.

A.O.B. The Hon. Secretary reported that the Country Planning Officer, Mr Doubleday, was unable to accept our invitation to address the Autumn Meeting on 21 Nov, but had ~~assisted~~ virtually committed us to accepting Mr Ritching, the Deputy C.P.O., as his deputy.

Mr Wilson recommended that the plans sub-committee should meet regularly to examine the Council's Plans List, & undertake to establish an arrangement with Mr Raw (the convenor) & Mr Dixon.

Mr Wilson brought literature from the Town & Country Planning Association & recommended that the Society would benefit from corporate membership, annual subscription 5 gns. The Dev. Sub. Ctee to consider & make a recommendation.

Mr Hughes drew attention to the dilapidated state of Chastons abandoned development (Pigeonwick) in Sun Lane. The Hon. Sec to write to the Clerk enquiring if the Council had powers to compel a bankrupt contractor to make good.

Mr Eccleston outlined the provisions of the new Civic Amenities Act.

Date of Next Meeting. Miss Hills Young having suggested that there might be a better attendance if the Committee day were changed, it was agreed to hold the next meeting on Fri 15 Dec.

Geoff Goacher
15 Dec 67

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 15 Dec 1967

Eleven members attended, Mr Goucher in the chair.

Apologies for absence were received from Capt Bond, Messrs Hill, Wilson, Wood, Eccleston, Country, Rosewarne, MacCrac, Mr Green, Judge Dow, Miss Hills Young.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 Nov were read & approved.

Matters arising - Letters ^{were read from the Clerk of the UDC} referring to the uncompleted Pigeonwick Estate on Sun Lane & to the future use of the Harpenden East Line Land. There had been a further exchange between the Clerk & the Hon. Sec on the Council's planning policy. On the recommendation of the Development Sub-Com the Com resolved that the Society should join the Town & Country Planning Assoc as a corporate member, annual sub: 5 guineas. With regard to the signposting of the St G School & other footpaths, Mr Hughes informed the meeting that the Surveyors Dept would establish the responsibility. Finance. The Hon. Treas had not furnished a ~~report~~ ^{statement} but there had been little change since the last meeting, except that ~~new~~ income was gradually increasing with new memberships. Subscriptions had almost reached £100.

Correspondence. A circular letter from the Clerk announced a public enquiry into the Council's refusal to approve ^{development} ~~div: at N/A~~ on land adjoining 6/8 Birch Way. Mr Dixon undertook to attend the enquiry.

Agenda. The Hon. Sec. read copies he had had with the Commons Preservation Society & the Surveyors on the feared encroachment ~~on~~ onto the Common of the extensions to the Harpenden Cricket Club. It was however quite clear that there was no threat of enclosure or other curtailment of public

It is clear that the Council might be more positive in its attitude to development - further discussion of which is being considered.

rights.

The Hon. Sec suggested that a change from the traditional Wed for C's meetings might be re-considered, as attendance was not noticeably affected by the experimental change to Friday. Discussion revealed that Tues was the most convenient day for the majority of those present, & it was decided to meet on Tues till further notice, the next meeting being fixed for 23 Jan 1968.

Fred Goucher

Jan 23 - 68