

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on
Tuesday, 20 March, 1980 at Harpenden Hall

Present: Mr. Usher in the chair
Mr. Evans, Mr. Ward, Mr. Powlesland, Miss Ashford,
Lady Bawden, Mr. Bush, Mrs. Godfrey, Miss Haberer,
Mr. Haggard, Mr. Raw, Mr. Rees, Mrs. Suitters,
Mrs. Wang, Mr. Wilson
Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Barnes
and Mr. Jennings
The Chairman welcomed Lady Bawden, Mr. Bush and
Mr. Raw as new members of the Committee.

1. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 February, 1980 were approved
and signed, subject to the amendment of item 2(d) to read
"National Children's Home farmland".

2. Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition

The Secretary exhibited a model of the Society's stand for the
Spotlight on Leisure Exhibition, showing sections on St. Nicholas
Church Tower Appeal, Schools' Liaison Group, the Concourse Tree,
Railway Electrification, Trees, the 1980 Award, Anti-litter and
the Upper Lea Valley Group. He appealed for volunteers to man
the stand from 27 to 29 March.

3. St. Nicholas Church Tower Appeal

Mr. Rees asked if the Society would contribute towards the cost
of renovating the 15th century tower of St. Nicholas Church. The
Committee agreed to a proposal by Mr. Raw that a donation of £25.
should be made.

4. 1980 Award

As announced at the Annual General Meeting, the Panel of Judges
had agreed that the Society's Award for 1980 should be made to the
Glen Eagle Hotel for their new extension. The Award would be made
at the Wine and Cheese Party on 7 May, to which representatives of
the Hotel, Gwyn Morris and Partners (the architects) and Marshalls
of Luton (Builders) would be invited. It was agreed that the
Chairman of the Town Council should be asked to present the award.

5. Concourse Tree and High Street Planting

Discussion took place on further fund raising and it was agreed
that the Treasurer should draft a suitable letter to be sent to
members of the Chamber of Trade.

6. Wine and Cheese Party

Mr. Evans outlined plans for organising the party and a Sub-Comm-
ittee (J. Bush, A. Godfrey, E. Ward and A. Evans) was appointed
to arrange the details. It was agreed that Committee members
should wear name badges, and should try to introduce members
coming alone to other members.

7. Southdown Townscaping

The District Council's plan for traffic arrangements at Southdown
had been exhibited at the Annual General Meeting and had aroused
much criticism, mainly at the loss of part of the green triangle.
As the matter was urgent, Mr. Evans and Mr. Ward had inspected

the site the next day and had submitted to the Town and District Councils a revised plan reducing the paved area and replacing it with grass bordered by chains at the Grove Road end. This would also reduce dangers to pedestrians crossing the road at this point.

8. Dark Lane Refuse Dump

The Secretary reported that a decision on the closure of the Dark Lane Refuse Dump had been deferred until a future meeting of the County Council.

9. The Nicky Line

Mr. Ward reported that the County Council had ruled out the use of the line to convey refuse out of the county from a depot at Hemel Hempstead as road transport would be cheaper. Any decision to re-open the line would be made by British Rail on economic grounds.

10. Next Open Meeting

On 22 April, Mr. R. Saunderson, Public Relations Officer, British Rail, would speak on "The London Midland Electrification". It was agreed that he should be asked to bring the model of the new Harpenden Station, and that he should be apprised beforehand of the Society's concern over the landscaping of the new station and the future of the buildings in Station Approach.

11. Review of Sub-Groups

Membership of the Sub-Groups was announced as follows:

<u>Commons Group</u>	Lady Bawden (Convenor), Miss Ashford, Mr. Evans, Miss Pratt, Mr. Scowen, Mr. Ward, Mr. Weston
<u>Trees Group</u>	Mr. Barnes (Convenor), Mr. Haggard, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Leishman, Mr. Scowen, Miss Spurr
<u>Plans Group</u>	Mr. Rees (Convenor), Mrs. Godfrey, Mr. Raw, Mr. Smith, Miss Spurr, Mrs. Wang
<u>Transport Group</u>	Mr. Rogers (Convenor), Mr. Jennings, Mr. Raw, Mrs. Wang
<u>Lea Valley Group</u>	Mr. Haggard (Representative) Mrs. Wang (Deputy Representative)
<u>Schools Liaison Group</u>	Mrs. Godfrey (Convenor), Mr. Curl, Miss Haberer, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Wilson
<u>Recycling Group</u>	Mr. Usher (Convenor), Mrs. Powlesland, Mr. Rogers, Mrs. Suitters, Mr. Ward

12. Reports of Group Convenors. (a) Plans Group

- (a) The Chairman welcomed the strengthening of the Group by the addition of Mrs. Godfrey, Mr. Raw and Mrs. Wang. The Secretary suggested that the Group should now submit their own comments on planning applications to the District Council after submission to the Committee. This was agreed.

On behalf of the Plans Group, Mr. Rees commented on the proposed alterations to the Herts. County Structure Plan 1980, and said that as far as this district was concerned, no alterations were needed. He advised that the opening paragraphs of the County Council's statement should be recorded:

- 2.(a) "A series of changes to Hertfordshire County Structure Plan are
(cont.) proposed in a new document - "Hertfordshire County Structure Plan -
Proposed Alterations 1980" - published for consultation by
Hertfordshire County Council this week.

Although the current plan received the Secretary of State for the Environment's approval after a three year delay only last September, it was prepared during 1974 and 1975. Since that time, changes have taken place which lead to revisions in forecasts of the county's population, housing requirements and employment.

Recent studies have also suggested the need to refine policies dealing with housing, villages, the landscape, shopping, leisure and mineral working. In addition, the Secretary of State had asked for some changes to be made including new proposals for Stevenage."

Mr. Rees recommended that planning permission be refused for rear extensions at 3, Lea Walk, 27 Meadway, 46, Granby Avenue and 12, Churchfield on grounds of their excessive depth in relation to adjoining property.

He also recommended that an application by the Tandoori Restaurant, 80, High Street to delete from planning approval two clauses limiting opening hours and forbidding the sale of takeaway food, should be refused in order to safeguard the amenities of the area.

2.(b) Transport

Mr. Usher reported that he had drafted a letter to send to members who had expressed an interest in transport, in an attempt to get support for the Group.

(c) Trees

In the absence of Mr. Barnes, Mr. Ward reported that the Group had met on 7th March. The Irish yew for Church Green would be planted shortly, and a silver-leaved alder had been planted on Hatching Green as a chestnut had been damaged by vandals.

(d) Recycling

The Chairman reported that he had written to Sainsburys about the possibility of a bottle bank being installed in their car park.

(e) Lea Valley

Mr. Haggard reported that a start had been made on the re-building of the banks on either side of the sluice gate. The Annual Meeting of the Group would be held on 11 September at All Saint's Hall, Batford, when slides of the Upper Lea Valley would be shown.

(f) School's Liaison

Mrs. Godfrey reported that work was proceeding on Box No. 2, containing background information for two planning games and on the development of Harpenden since 1900. A press release on Box No. 1 would be ready soon.

13. Newsletter

The next copy of the Newsletter would be published at the end of April.

14. Any other business

Mr. Ward said he had been in touch with the Librarian and it had been agreed that the Society's Spotlight on Leisure exhibit should be shown in the Public Library from 14 to 24 April.

4. (cont.) Mr. Usher reported that he had received a request from the Secretary of Long Buftler's Residents' Association asking if they could become affiliated to the Society. After discussion, it was agreed that the Officers should consider the request and report to the next meeting of the Committee.

A proposal by Mrs. Wang that the Society might publish picture postcards of Harpenden to replace the poor ones at present on sale was not thought to be feasible as it would need a large outlay of capital.

Mrs. Wang reported that she had written to the District Council about the excessive advertising by the Herts. Advertiser at Henderson's, Batford and Hockaday's, High Street, but had received no reply.

Mr. Wilson agreed to look into the felling of mature trees at Batford Mill, reported by Mrs. Wang.

15. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday, 15 April at 7.45 p.m. at Harpenden Hall.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

cttee 2013/80 (ii)
 & its sub-groups → Tel.

President

His Honour Judge R.G.Dow 2, Kirkwick Avenue 2006

Vice-Presidents

Miss Helen Finnie 43, Milton Road
 Mr. C. W. Curl 34, Haddon Court, Milton Road 3449
 Mr. E. P. Wilson 5, Salisbury Road 4474

Chairman

Mr. P. Usher 55, Crossway 63333

Vice-Chairman

Mr. A. Evans 21, East Common 3498

Honorary Secretary

Mr. E. Ward 4, Birch Way 3179

Honorary Treasurer

Mr. N. J. Powlesland 9, Alders End Lane 2406

Executive Committee

Miss M. E. Ashford 40, West Common 68643
 (Minutes Secretary)
 Lady Bawden 1, Crabtree Lane 2264
 Mr. W. Barnes Flat 4, Rothamsted Manor 68325
 Mr. J. Bush 9, Hawthorn Close 4693
 (Events Secretary)
 Mrs. A. Godfrey 6, Douglas Road 3167
 (Liaison Officer with
 St. Albans Civic Soc.)
 Miss I. Haberer 7, Yardley Court, Milton Road 2925
 (Editor: Newsletter)
 Mr. J. Haggard 42, Stewart Road 5606
 Mr. K. P. Jennings 146, Cravells Road 60357
 Mr. R. J. Raw Halfcourt, Byron Road 4230
 Mr. B. T. Rees 23, Lyndhurst Drive 3004
 Mr. P. Rogers 4, Alders End Lane 4531
 Mr. Maurice Smith 21, Moreton Avenue 4104
 Mrs. B. Suitters 92, Eastmoor Park 63457
 (Membership Secretary)

Until March, 1981

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

SUB-GROUPS FROM MARCH, 1980

COMMONS GROUP

Lady Bawden (Convenor)
Miss Ashford, Mr. Evans, Miss Pratt,
Mr. Scowen, Mr. Ward, Mr. Weston

TREES GROUP

Mr. Barnes (Convenor)
Mr. Haggard, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Leishman,
Mr. Scowen, Miss Spurr

PLANS GROUP

Mr. Rees (Convenor)
Mrs. Godfrey, Mr. Raw, Mr. Smith,
Miss Spurr, Mrs. Wang

TRANSPORT GROUP

Mr. Rogers (Convenor)
Mr. Jennings, Mr. Raw, Mrs. Wang

UPPER LEA VALLEY GROUP

Mr. Haggard (Representative)
Mrs. Wang (Deputy Representative)

SCHOOLS' LIAISON GROUP

Mrs. Godfrey (Convenor)
Mr. Curl, Miss Haberer, Mr. Rogers,
Mr. Wilson

RECYCLING GROUP

Mr. Usher (Convenor)
Mr. Powlesland, Mr. Rogers,
Mrs. Suitters, Mr. Ward

(Main points noted
in JBD 6/4/10 (iii)
commentary)

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday,
15 April, 1980 at 7.45 pm at Harpenden Hall

Present: Mr. Evans in the chair
Mr. Ward, Mr. Powlesland, Miss Ashford, Lady Lawden,
Mr. Bush, Mrs. Godfrey, Miss Haberer, Mr. Haggard,
Mr. Jennings, Mr. Raw, Mr. Rees, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Smith,
Mrs. Snitters, Mrs. Wang
Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Usher and Mr. Wilson

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 18 March were approved and signed.

WINE AND CHEESE PARTY, 7 MAY

Mr. Evans reported that details of arrangements for the party had been made by the Sub-Committee. It was agreed that publicity was needed and that the next Newsletter should advertise the party and should be published as soon as possible. It was also agreed that representatives of the St. Albans Civic Society and the Redbourn Society should be invited.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Secretary reported that he had heard from Mr. Saunderson that he could not bring the model of the new Harpenden Station when he came to speak on "The London Midland Electrification" on 22 April. On Miss Haberer's suggestion it was agreed that he should be asked to bring a photograph of the model. ✓
note

Mr. Bush reported that he had made bookings of the hall for meetings on 23 September, 29 October, 4 December, 1980, and 10 February, 9 March and 6 May, 1981.

NEWSLETTER

As the next Newsletter was being published earlier than intended, it was agreed that an extra number should be published to include dates of future meetings.

REPORTS OF GROUP CONVENORS

(a) PLANS

Mr. Rees commented on proposals for ground floor extensions at 27, Meadway, 46, Granby Avenue and 10, Churchfield which would adversely affect adjoining property. It was agreed that objections should be made to planning permission being granted.

After discussion on an application for change of use of the old International Supermarket to a Wimpey Restaurant, it was agreed that the Society should recommend that evening opening hours should not be later than those of other local restaurants. It should also be stressed that the fascia board should be unobtrusive.

Other applications to which Mr. Rees recommended objections were the demolition of a listed barn at Plover's Cottage, Hatching Green, the erection of a detached house at the rear of 5 Park Avenue South, a first-floor rear extension at 140, Station Road and two illuminated signs on the Tandoori Restaurant, 80, High Street.

5. (a) Mrs. Wang reported that the fascia board on the International Supermarket did not conform with the conditions of planning permission that the colouring should be the same as that of adjacent shops.

Mr. Evans had heard that the new Pinefare Supermarket proposed to have a large, illuminated sign. It was agreed that the Secretary should write to the District Council immediately for details and should voice the Society's concern about the fascia board on the International Supermarket and other local shops.

The Secretary read a letter from the District Engineer saying that it was not possible to make a park for motor cycles in the centre of Harpenden. Mr. Rogers agreed to draft a reply.

(b) COMMONS

The Committee agreed to Lady Bawden's suggestion that Miss Thurston should be invited to join the Group and that she should be asked to organise the collection of wild flower seeds.

(c) LEA VALLEY

Mr. Haggard said he hoped soon to be able to give details of a long-term plan for tree planting in the Lea Valley area.

(d) SCHOOLS LIAISON

Mrs. Godfrey reported that the Group would meet on 1 May, and agreed that the Group's first Resources Box should be on show at the Cheese and Wine Party on 7 May.

6. MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDS

The Treasurer reported that 261 members had not yet paid their subscriptions, and it was agreed that a reminder should be put in the next Newsletter.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Miss Haberer expressed concern at the numbers of unsightly concrete markers that were appearing in many places, particularly at the junction of Walkers Road and the A1081. The Commons Group agreed to look into the matter.

Mr. Evans criticised the signs at the new Bull Road roundabout and Mr. Raw undertook to inspect and make further enquiries.

The Secretary drew the attention of members to the Annual Town Meeting to be held at the Public Hall on 21 April at 8 p.m.

Discussion took place on the possibility of holding a Garden Party at Rothamsted Manor this autumn or instead of a Wine and Cheese Party next year. Mr. Haggard undertook to make enquiries.

Mrs. Wang reported on damage to trees by vandals and the removal of a litter bin in Station Road and agreed to report these to the Council.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting would be held on Tuesday, 20 May at 7.45 p.m. at Harpenden Hall.