

'86

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Wednesday, 5th March, 1986 in the Small Public Hall, Harpenden.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from the President, Mr. Colin Curl, who had been called away on Council duties.

2. Dr. JOAN MOORE

The untimely death of Dr. Joan Moore, the Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee and the convenor of the Commons and Greens Group, was noted with sadness. Lady Bawden gave a personal tribute and the Town Council tribute was made by Councillor Mrs. Stella Curl.

The Chairman said that an appropriate memorial would be raised to commemorate Dr. Moore's work in the Society and in the community.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 6th March, 1985 were approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Mr. Ward said that, with reference to the special award that Lady Bawden had suggested should be made to commemorate the work of the Upper Lea Valley Group, a master plaque and subsidiary plaques had been obtained and would be erected to mark the beginning of the path in the Church car park, the central area in the Recreation Ground and special sites such as the dam and the weir bridge.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Jennings expressed his sadness at the loss of Dr. Joan Moore. He paid tribute to her hard work over the years for the Society.

He then gave a brief review of the year's events and made special mention of the Newsletter which he said gave the membership an excellent commentary on the Society's activities.

He went on to stress the need for greater participation by the membership and concluded by thanking the Committee for their hard work over the year.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer presented to the Meeting the Harpenden Society and Upper Lea Valley Group audited Analysis of Income and Expenditure for 1985. Particular attention was drawn to:

1. a total expenditure of £2,111 to enhance the local environment.
2. an excess of expenditure over income of £670 due in the main to a reduction in receipts from subscriptions and donations. This reduction had arisen from a reduction in membership numbers, a change in the timing of the payment of subscriptions and special receipts in 1984 from five-year payments.
3. a major part of the Society's total expenditure had been spent on a donation to the Eric Morecambe Memorial Trust, the repair of the Town Sign and the local bus shelters and the provision of plaques to mark the Lea Valley footpath.

The Treasurer said that the financial position of the Society was strong and that he recommended the maintenance of a balance of £1,700 in order that the Society may have funds available for worthwhile projects in 1986.

7. SPECIAL RESOLUTION

The Chairman referred to the proposition by the Executive Committee for the amendment of the Rules of the Society which had been explained in the Society Newsletter No. 1 January 1986.

The Special Resolution was put to the Meeting and by a majority vote it was resolved that:

"The following words be and are hereby deleted from the Constitution of the Society:

Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a period of three years, and after three years continuous service shall not be eligible for re-election until after a lapse of one year.

and that the following words be and are hereby substituted for the foregoing:

Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a period of one year and shall be eligible for re-election annually.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously that the election of officers be dealt with en bloc.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously that the following persons be and are hereby elected to serve on the Executive Committee:

Chairman	Mr. Keith Jennings
Vice Chairman	Mr. Ernest Truslove
Secretary	Mr. Jack Bush
Treasurer	Mr. Ian McNicoll
Committee Members	Mrs. Jose Clitherow
	Mr. George Haslar
	Miss Isobel Leek

3.

Mr. Leslie Matthews
Mr. Tony Mellody
Mrs. Pat Mowbray
Miss Joan Thurston
Mr. Mervyn Vincent
Mrs. Marjorie Waldren
Mrs. Lorna Wang
Mr. Colin Ward

9. REPORT ON THE SOCIETY'S 1986 AWARD

Mr. Ward reported that the panel of judges, Mrs. Jose Clitherow, Mr. Mervyn Vincent and himself had viewed the qualifying properties nominated for the Society's Award by the members. These properties were the reconstructed railway station booking hall and offices, the restored Harpenden Lodge and adjacent buildings, the chapel-into-cottage conversion at Pimlico, site improvements at Fine Fare and the Nicky Way.

Mr. Ward said that the judges had been seeking the development which provided the most significant visual amenity.

The Award was given to the carefully restored Victorian booking hall and offices at the railway station. Arrangements will be made for the presentation of the appropriate plaque and its display on the exterior of the building.

10. FUTURE EVENTS

Mr. Truslove reported that a Batford meeting had not been arranged for 1985 as little interest had been shown.

It was hoped to arrange a meeting on traffic problems during 1986.

An Environment Exhibition in conjunction with other interested organisations was planned for 1986.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The members endorsed a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. I.D.G. McNicoll to the Honorary Auditor

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was fixed for Wednesday, 4th March, 1987.

13. The meeting closed with the members endorsement of a vote of thanks, proposed by Lady Bawden, to Mr. T. Ward for taking the Chair and to the Committee members for their work during the year.


4/3/87.