

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on 18 November 1986

Present: Mr K Jennings, Chairman  
Mrs MJM Clitherow, Mr G Haslar, Mr LJG Matthews,  
Mrs P Mowbray, Miss JM Thurston, Mrs M Waldren,  
Mrs L Wang, Mr MF Vincent, Mr CB Ward, Mr T Ward,  
Mrs DA Ogilvie-Ward (Minutes)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Bush, Miss IM Leek, Mr I McNicoll, Mr A Mellody and Mr EJ Truslove.

175. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 1986 were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:-

Minute 169. (a) Highfield Oval -  
to read "..... for use in connection with their work in inner cities in this country as well as overseas."

Minute 170. Environmental. Para 7, Public Contact -  
to read "Westminster Bank - unauthorised work on ....."

Minute 170. Transport, 1st sentence and Para 2. -  
to read "..... Mr Shooter ....."

176. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Commons and Greens (Minutes 169(b), 170(b), 173)

Miss Thurston reported -

1. "Our Common Land" - she had now purchased a copy.
2. Memorial Bench - this had arrived and would be erected soon; decisions about the plaque could then be considered.
3. Memorial Tree - it looked splendid now that the undergrowth had been cut back.
4. Tree on Concourse - treatment of the fungus was not necessary.
5. Talk by Miss Sharon Brown, Herts & Middx Trust for Nature Conservation, 5 November - this was an excellent talk by a very good speaker.

(b) Transport (Minute 169.(c))

Mr Haslar reported that the Carlton Road footbridge had been repainted by BR but had been covered in graffiti again. He had recently seen two boys under the footbridge and had contacted the police; a local policeman walks over the bridge each day.

(c) Reports from Groups (Minute 170.(a) Plans: penultimate para)

Mrs Wang asked if the Society had received any further communication from the DC about the outcome of the meeting on Waldegrave Park; Mr Matthews agreed to take this matter up with the DC.

(d) Environmental (Minute 169.(c) 1)

Mrs Wang reported that she had not received any estimates for clock repairs.

177. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

(a) PLANS

Planning applications were commented on as follows:

5/076A/86 - The Old Bell Public House

The drawing shows some reduction in the number of signs compared with the original proposal but there is still a lack of information on both the proposed wording and the colours of the remaining signs: there does not appear to be planning permission for the sign on the carport; the green plastic canopies are not in keeping with a listed building; it is questionable that a sign is necessary over the baywindow; it looked as if the lettering of "The Old Bell" was to be altered; the presence of the "temporary notice" was queried.

Mrs Wang commented that the TC has opposed this application very strongly.

5/1489/86 - 11 Sauncey Avenue

The adjoining property, No. 15, is at a somewhat lower level; the existing garage already dominates the view from windows on the SW side of the house; the proposed extension would further deprive No. 15 of sunlight, air and visual amenity.

This application is unreasonable and the Society expects refusal of this application.

5/0416/86 - 102 Southdown Road

This 3-storey building is in the conservation area and is of distinctive appearance for the locality with its 2 bow windows. The amended plan proposes to leave the existing tiling beneath the first floor bow window and to use stained wood or hardwood for the new doorway and shopfront; the loss of the ground floor bow window would alter the pleasant appearance and proportion of the facade. It is suggested that with a little ingenuity the bow window shape could be retained and perhaps the applicant could be persuaded to do this.

5/1448/86 - 1& 3 Shakespeare Road

Work on the construction of 2 garages appears to be in hand. The side elevation of the proposed garages would present ugly false pitched roofs to the general view and it is suggested that tiled roofs sloping to the rear would be better.

5/1515/86 - 1 Lea Walk

There appears to be room for a 2-storey building to replace a large carport, small extension and a couple of sheds. If agreed, such a building would have to match as exactly as possible the existing dwellings in the terrace. However, by agreeing, a precedent might be set for such applications in similar situations in the area, in Lea Walk in particular.

It is recommended that this application should be refused.

5/1528/86 - Rear of 57/59 Cowper Road

The proposed detached dwelling would mean the loss of 12 lock-up garages for use of people in Cowper Road; the consequent additional on-street parking would cause further congestion.

It is recommended that this application should be refused.

5/1596/86 - St Michaels Close

The proposal is to build a detached house behind the new house being built on land adjacent to 71 Grove Road with access from St Michaels Close. The plot concerned would not allow enough amenity space for the occupants and would add to traffic congestion problems in St Michaels Close.

It is recommended that this application should be refused.

5/1578/86 - Cherry Electrical Products, Coldharbour Lane

The firm recently applied for half its premises to be sold to another company. The Society queried the sufficiency of parking on Cherry's site which would be greatly reduced in area; overspill parking in Coldharbour Lane is already a problem. It is feared that the building extensions proposed would encroach on the carpark with a loss in vital parking spaces; this point should be given careful consideration.

5/1534/86 - 22 Kirkwick Avenue

The application is for an existing garage to be converted to living accommodation and the construction of a new double garage adjoining side of house. This is in the conservation area but not indicated on the planning list. Existing landscaping, or that affected by the application, has not been identified; such details should be provided before the application is considered.

5/1623/86 - Rear of 43 Ox Lane

Proposed 2-storey detached dwelling and detached double garage. The Society strongly objects to this unsuitable site as it is backland development and contrary to DC policy.

5/1626/86 - New Taj Mahal Restaurant, 21 Station Road

This is a retrospective application for the dutch blind and plastic letters already in position on the fascia. The Society objects to the material used for the lettering as not being of a standard acceptable in a conservation area; however, the Society cannot object to the muted colours of the blind as there are many unauthorised dutch blinds already erected.

5/1628/86 - Rear of 53 Park Avenue Close

The proposed erection of a bungalow on land off Townsend Close in the conservation area represents backland development which is contrary to DC policy.

5/1629/86 - White Oak, West Common Close

Proposed erection of covered swimming pool in the conservation area.

The Society has noticed an increasing number of lapses in

identifying sites on the planning application lists which are in the conservation area.

5/1641/86 - 7 Manland Avenue

Refusal of the application for the proposed erection of 2 detached houses on land adjacent to 7 Manland Avenue is recommended: the double garages would be detrimental to the unity of the road frontage and block the light to the 2 proposed dwellings and it was considered that the proposed houses were too large for the site, although there would be no objection to 2 smaller units which would harmonise more sympathetically. It was noted with dismay the removal of the established hedge on the boundary of No. 9 and the recent lopping of the mature trees fronting the application site.

5/1641/86 - 106 Cowper Road

In this application for a 2-storey side extension, it was considered that the ridge over the bedroom extension is unacceptably high; as there appears to be no practical reason for this, it is recommended that it be lowered to continue level with the existing roof.

5/1619/86 - 122 Southdown Road

The Society is pleased to see that the revised plan for a new shopfront and 2-storey rear extension proposes a new signwritten fascia and a hardwood shopfront which is sympathetic to its surroundings in the conservation area.

Harpenden Motors Site

Mr Matthews raised an objection to the demolition on this site as a proposed scheme had not been agreed. Demolition in a conservation area is a straightforward planning application but the Society believes it important for the proposed scheme to be approved first. The present plans are being discussed by the TC who would like a public toilet on the site. The Chairman agreed that, as a matter of principle, the Society would object to the demolition on this site until there was an agreed application for the proposed scheme.

Highfield Oval site

Mrs Wang reported that she had attended a meeting at Highfield Oval on 8 November when "Youth with a Mission" explained their plans for the site. There are to be public consultations at the Public Hall as follows:

11 December - 10.00 am to 9.30 pm  
(with a question-and-answer session from 7.30 pm)

12 December - 10.00 am to 6.00 pm.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Plans Group would represent the Society at the question and answer session on 11 December.

#### Luton Hoo development

Mrs Wang referred to an article in "Property" (An Investors Chronicle survey of 7 November 1986) which referred to the "..... new Luton Hoo estate-owned 80 acres, recently named Capability Green ..... this specific scheme, the largest ever contemplated in Luton, will provide approx. 900,000 sq ft of industrial/office buildings in a park-type setting. As it is being designed from an existing green field site, care can be taken with regard to landscaping and carparking .....".

It was agreed that the Society would investigate this development.

#### (b) COMMONS AND GREENS

Miss Thurston reported the outcome of the Group meeting held on 29 October 1986 -

1. Gardening on the Common - there had been much discussion on this subject and also on the felling of trees and planting of dahlias at Hatching Green. The Society agreed to back the Group in their protest to the TC against unauthorised planting on the Common and the chopping down of trees.
2. Rovers Carpark - the gates to the carpark had been left open on one occasion; the Group would investigate if this was an oversight or if there had been a change of heart.
3. Golf Club request for information on litter bins - Mr T Ward said that the usual litter bins were too large and not suitable for the golf club; he knew of a firm in Luton which provided suitable equipment and would investigate in the near future.
4. Litter - our bye-laws are currently being revised and extended; it is hoped that this can be included.
5. "Plants on Harpenden Common" - copies were produced and comments on the content and layout were sought. The Society

would, at a future date, arrange final publication.  
The next Group meeting has been arranged for 14 January 1987.

(c) ENVIRONMENTAL

Mrs Wang reported that -

1. Recent correspondence on environmental damage by horses and on footpaths/County Definitive 1986 Map had been passed to the ULVG.
2. Harpenden Station - her letter to Mr Shooter of 10 October had been acknowledged. As requested, BR had placed a bin by the seat and also added platform numbers to the timetable displayed in the station foyer. [Note: at the meeting it was pointed out that the timetable had since been removed- Mr Haslar agreed to investigate.] The Ladies toilet had been dirty and the walls covered in graffiti; two days after this had been reported to BR, it was cleaned up. Because of a recent accident, the fence at Carlton Bridge had been pierced and the gap temporarily fastened with white tape. As the DC had not taken any action, Mrs Wang reported this to Mr Spellman (BR) who was unaware of the problem. The next day, BR had erected a temporary fence. Mrs Wang expressed appreciation for the prompt action by BR in these two cases.
3. Bus Shelter, Church Green - the TC are proposing to replace the wooden bus shelter by an urban metal one. Mrs Wang asked the Society to support the view that the wooden shelter harmonized with Church Green whereas a metal shelter would be out of keeping with the locality. Mr Matthews commented that, in a conservation area, an urban bus shelter would be a disaster and that its appearance would be most unsuitable. The Society agreed to support the objection to replace the wooden bus shelter.
4. Litter - an article is soon to appear in "Forum" about the litter problem caused by receipts from bank cash dispensers; the TC is taking action.
5. Town Notice Board - at Mrs Wang's suggestion, the Society agreed to take up the matter of the display panel and the paper on the corners of the Town Notice Board, located near Lloyds Bank.

The Chairman reported on -

6. The Nicky Way - Mr Jennings sought the Committee's approval to send a report to the DC about the Nicky Way and to

enquire of the DC when the Nicky Line Management Committee is to meet. He will draft a report to the DC covering the following points:

1. broken seat adjacent to entrance to Nicky Way,
2. amount of litter and garden rubbish,
3. gap in the inadequate fence at the main line end of the path,
4. access from Highfield Oval looks "official" and well used,
5. litter around Roundwood Halt,
6. barrier there in need of repair,
7. encroachment of undergrowth and overgrowth in places along the path,
8. Nicky Way logo shows effects of wear and weather damage: more substantial signs needed,
9. signposts needed for paths off (e.g. at Rothamstead).

The Committee agreed that a report on the above lines should be sent forward. Mrs Wang mentioned that the maintenance of the Nicky Way was the responsibility of the DC.

Mrs Wang showed the Committee cards distributed by the DC for the reporting of highway defects.

(d) TRANSPORT

Mr Haslar reported that -

1. Harpenden Station - pavement up to the booking office had been completed.
2. Leyton Road - The Committee discussed the suggestion that a pedestrian zebra crossing be installed, possibly between the projected pavements, or a pelican crossing be sited in Leyton Road.

(e) SOUTHDOWN GROUP

In the absence of Mr Truslove, it was reported that -

1. FineFare - the TC is concerned that the rear exit of FineFare <sup>entrance</sup> into Piggotshill is being used as a short-cut despite the 5" kerb. It was agreed that the Society should support (through the Southdown Group) the TC who have said that it is an emergency exit only.
2. Air-raid shelter - this has now been filled with concrete blocks; the Society would investigate who placed them



there.

(f) UPPER LEA VALLEY GROUP

Mr T Ward reported that -

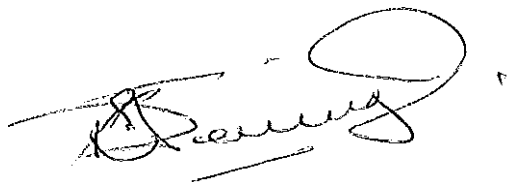
1. Plaque - arrangements had been made for a bricklayer to mount the plaque on the cairn but the work had not yet started.

178. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Harpenden Library - an update on the Society had been sought for its Library Services; it was agreed that the word "social" was wrong and new information would be provided. (It was suggested that similar updated details should also be given to the local Citizens Advice Bureau.)
2. DC Quarterly Minutes - the Chairman accepted the minutes from Mrs Wang and agreed to deal with this matter.
3. Harpenden Herald - Mr T Ward reported that, on behalf of Mr J Bush, he had provided the newspaper with details of the Society, as requested.
4. St Nicholas District Committee - the Committee had approached the Society for a contribution towards the cost of buying and installing an electrical winding mechanism for the church clock. The Society agreed that no action be taken.

179. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was arranged for 7.45 pm on Monday, 12 January 1987.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'S. Wang', with a large loop at the end.

The Colin Ward  
77 Tapscott Way

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on Thursday, 2nd October, 1986

Present: Mr. K. Jennings, Chairman L.J.C.  
Miss I.M. Leek, Mr. L.G.J. Matthews, Mrs. P. Mowbray,  
Miss J.M. Thurston Mr. E.J. Truslove, Mr. M.F. Vincent,  
Mrs. M. Waldren, Mrs. L. Wang, Mr. C.B. Ward, Mr. T. Ward.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. J. Bush, Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow,  
Mr. G. Haslar and Mr. A. Mellody.

168. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st August, 1986 were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:-

Minute 164(c) para 2 - to read "The TC had agreed to....."

Minute 165(a)  
Highfield Oval

para 2 - to read ".....that details of the planning brief  
which the DC is preparing will....."

para 3 - to read ".....agreed that Mr. Matthews and....."

Minute 165(b) item 2 - to read ".....proceeding with the clearing around  
the selected memorial tree....."

para 3 - to read ".....to an 18 inch width in places....."

169. MATTERS ARISING

a. Highfield Oval (Minute 165(a))

Mr. Matthews said that he had attended a meeting at which the Director of Youth with a Mission had spoken about the continued institutional use of the site if his organisation could acquire it for use in connection with their overseas work, ~~so in inner cities in this country as well as overseas.~~

b. Commons and Greens (Minute 165(b))

It was agreed to buy an up-to-date edition of "our Common Land".

The striking of willow cuttings was awaiting suitable weather.

c. Transport (Minute 165(d))

The BR plaque presentation took place satisfactorily with good representation from the Society.

The Carlton Road footbridge had been repainted and immediately re-vandalised with graffiti.

d. Southdown (Minute 165(e))

The doors of the garages opposite Dark Lane had been painted and the weeds cut down prior to representations by the Society.

e. ULVG (Minute 165(f))

It was hoped to complete the installation of the plaque on the brick cairn this week-end at an estimated cost of £50.

170. REPORTS FROM GROUPSa. Plans

Planning applications were commented on as follows:-

5/1197/86 11 Wells Close, land adjacent, Mrs. K. Bowman, proposed 4 x one-bedroomed houses and car parking. Objection to loss of tree screening and possible similar development in the Close.

5/1227/86 10 Station Road, Trustees G.W. Dunkley, use of 1st and 2nd floors as offices. Recommend use as residential unit in accordance with Policy 11 of the Inset Map.

Appeals had been heard as follows:-

96 High Street, Mr. J. Lok, change of use from restaurant with take-away facilities to take-away with ancillary restaurant. Support refusal.

D of E 33 High Street, change of use to dental surgery with loss of residential unit. Allowed.

No reference had been made to the Society's comments during the Council's discussions re. 6 Manland Avenue. The volume of work is too great to continue the debate on this and similar omissions, but a record of representations is to be maintained in the future.

A letter had been received from the DC regarding the possible future use of Waldegrave Park for recreation. A further communication should be received by the Society following a meeting of the Leisure Committee on the 15th September, 1986.

The TC have had a preview of new plans for the Harpenden Motors and The George PH site.

b. Commons and Greens

The next Group Meeting has been fixed for the 29th October, 1986.

Miss Thurston reported that:-

1. Hay - following flailing the harebells have flowered again very successfully.
2. Memorial Bench - the TC had agreed to order and instal the bench at an estimated total cost to the Society of £150. The sub-committee had approved this estimate.
3. Memorial Tree - the TC had agreed to clear the undergrowth from around the existing oak tree chosen as the memorial tree.

3.

4. Limbrick Road - the TC has cleared weeds from around the approx. 65 surviving newly-planted trees and shrubs.
5. Flora - work had continued. It was agreed that the list would be made available at cost price for checking prior to printing.
6. Concourse - fungus on the trees has yet to be investigated and the TC is to be pursued re. broken branches.
7. Town Sign - revision of the text for the plaque and production of the plaque are in hand.

c. Environmental

Mrs. Wang reported that:-

1. Clocks - verbal reports from Ryans were:  
Universal Toys - needs new surge transformer and rewiring  
C & A - cable cut in solicitors' office
2. Gilpin Green - work complete following seeding with seed chosen and paid for by residents who have sent a letter of thanks and a donation of £10. DC informed on 14th September, 1986 with request for inspection and confirmation that satisfactory for regular mowing. It was agreed that Luton Church helpers should be thanked formally.
3. Footpaths - County Definitive 1986 Map published showing only three changes from 1973 edition. Herts Ramblers Assoc have undertaken to survey all footpaths in the county by May 1987. Mrs. Wang has offered her help to the local representative.
4. Environmental Damage by Horses - DC and Countryside Officer of Planning Dept of CC contacted.
5. Tennis Club - decision to relocate 30 unwanted conifers or to erect a 5 foot lapboard fence on boundary and plant later.
6. Police Station - following weeding received an unsympathetic letter from Jarvis. Members' views to be sought in newsletter.
7. Public Contact -  
~~unauthorised~~  
Westminster Bank - work on display panel stopped by manager  
Cross Keys PH - Society to support tenant in desire to prevent brewery erecting signs.  
Harpenden Lodge Pond - concern for future. Herts & Middx Trust for Conservation of Nature to be contacted.  
Estate Agents- Boards - Mrs. Parker, TC, seeking support for local byelaw.  
Display Boards - Halfords removed following threat of enforcement order from CC. North of railway bridge no TC support as outside centre.

d. Transport

Mrs. Wang reported on her meeting with Mr. <sup>Shuter</sup>Shuter:-

1. Garden Beds - BR informed that the Society cannot undertake maintenance.
2. Progress - report on progress with agreed items since the meeting of 25th July to be sent to Mr. Shuter. <sup>Shuter</sup>

e. Southdown

Mr. Truslove reported:-

1. Edge of Green - no action in three months. No reply from the official met on site.
2. Air-raid Shelter - Barclays Bank Property Services Manager, Peterborough, had replied that he had searched deeds and would view site and write again.

f. U.L.V.G.

A plaque ceremony is to be arranged as soon as the work has been completed.

171. NEWSLETTER

Copy date	7th October
Print date	14th October

172. SECRETARY

The illness and absence from the meeting of Mr. Jack Bush was noted with regret and he was wished a speedy recovery and return.

173. PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, 5th November - Miss Sharon Brown of the Herts & Middx Trust for Nature Conservation.

Mr. Truslove said that he would purchase the screen as previously authorised.

174. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was arranged for 7.45 p.m. on Tuesday, 18th November, 1986.

There will be NO Agenda issued before this meeting, due to Jack Bush's illness

*[Signature]*  
18/11



# The Harpenden Society

Committee Meeting to be held on Thursday, 2nd October 1986 at  
Harpenden Hall at 7.45 p.m.

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## AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Reports from groups :-
  - Plans
  - Commons and Greens
  - Environmental
  - Transport
  - Southdown
  - ULVG.
5. Items for newsletter.
6. Any other business.
7. Date of next meeting.

## THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

### Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on Thursday, 21st August, 1986

Present: Mr. E.J. Truslove, In the Chair  
Mr. J. Bush, Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow, Miss I.M. Leek, Mr. L.G.J. Matthews, Mr. A. Mellody, Mrs. P. Mowbray, Miss J.M. Thurston, Mr. M.F. Vincent, Mrs. M. Waldren, Mrs. L. Wang.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. G. Haslar, Mr. K. Jennings, Mr. I.D.G. McNicoll, Mr. C.B. Ward and Mr. T. Ward.

#### 163. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 21st July, 1986 were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:-

- Minute 155 para 2 - to read ".....for clocks had she believed that the Society would not get invoved....."
- Minute 157(b)para 1 - to read ".....letter he had drafted to the DC following their suggestion, resulting from a meeting of the Southdown Group."
- para 5 - to read ".....sheltered accommodation in S. Harpenden;.."
- para 10 - Piggotshill Road to read "Piggottshill Lane"
- para 11 - to read ".....suggested that if a pelican crossing was the better ....."
- para 21 -
- (i) to read ".....pool in Rothamsted Park is being considered....."
- (v) to read "Attempts to purchase nos 5,7 and 9 Milton Road by developers who planned to demolish ..... of flats have been resisted ....."
- Minute 157(c)(i) - to read ".....towards repair costs if it could prove...."
- Minute 157(d) - to read ".....on the common if not sufficient for hay would be flailed ....."
- Minute 157(e)para 3 - to read ".....at the dangerous junction at Redbourn Lane/A1081 junction.
- para 4 - to read "Regarding car parking on the new footways in Leyton Road, ....."
- Minute 161 para 6 - to read ".....from the trees and obstruction of light."

#### 164. MATTERS ARISING

##### a. Matters Arising (Minute 156(b))

TC have ordered litter bins although the delivery date is unknown. TC to reclaim VAT and Society to pay net amount of one half share.

Following an objection by Mr. Ward to the legend lay-out and omission of "The" from the Society name, the TC had re-ordered the plaques.



b. Plans (Minute 157(b))

Mr. Matthews confirmed that the approved letter had been despatched to the DC on the 25th July.

c. Plans (Minute 157(d))

The Secretary confirmed that the DC had acknowledged his letter re Waldegrave Park.

The TC had ~~decided~~ <sup>agreed</sup> to locate the bench near Eastmoor Park/Cravells Road.

It was agreed that the Secretary would inform the TC that, subject to the final confirmation of the price, the Society found acceptable:-

- i. the location
- ii. the selection of the design by the TC

It was agreed that Messrs. Ward, Bush, Truslove and Jennings and Miss Thurston would agree the final cost, subject to an upper limit of £250.

It was noted that in addition to the foregoing the Society would pay for the cost of mounting the bench, the plaque and its fixing.

d. Transport (Minute 157(e))

In the absence of Mr. Haslar, the Secretary reported that BR had requested that presentation of the plaque be arranged for the morning of the 29th September in a convenient nearby room. Use of The Council Chamber had been obtained. The President and his lady had agreed to be present, invitations would be sent to representatives of the TC and DC and all Society Committee Members.

Mrs. Wang said that she had understood that the presentation would take place at the Station followed by a reception, organised by BR, in a convenient nearby room.

The Secretary was asked to seek clarification of the presentation venue.

e. ULVG (Minute 157(f))

The Secretary confirmed that the DC had acknowledged his letter containing the Society's suggestions re the Leasey Bridge pathway. Mrs. Wang said that the DC Works Dept which was responsible for this area of maintenance had an appropriate budget.

165 REPORTS FROM GROUPSa. Plans

Planning applications were commented on as follows:-

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 5/1009/86 | 30 Station Road, Mrs. Rispoli, change of use from shop to delicatessen and food take-away. Objection to change of use.    |
| 5/1051/86 | 1a Harding Parade, Pasta Cibo, change of use from shop to restaurant. Drew attention to exacerbation of traffic problems. |



5/1081/86 16 Church Green, Bejam Group Plc, alterations to shop including modification of shop front. Appears to be a retrospective application. Further alterations opposed.

5/1130/86 36 Manland Avenue, land adjacent, R.G. Gibson, proposed 3-bedroom house and garage. An outline application. No objection in principle providing attention is paid to mature trees and siting of the building in relation to location of the plot.

High Street Methodist Church - appeal allowed re refusal of DC of application in 1985 for extension to porch.

Harpenden Arms - the report following the DC inspection on the colour of the brickwork around the new fire door showed that the original brickwork had been colour-washed.

Harpenden Motors - no formal development.

Highfield Oval site - Mrs. Wang described in detail the aims of the special group, with which she is associated, which is concerning itself with the future development of the site.

*which the D.C. has planning brief*  
It is understood that details of six applications will be given to the TC and the Society in Spring 1987.

*st Matthew*  
It was noted that the Society had received a request from 'Youth with a Mission' for support for that organisation's continued and extended leased use of the site. It was agreed that Mr. Ward and Mrs. Wang of the Plans Group should meet the Director to obtain further information.

#### b. Commons and Greens

Miss Thurston said that following meetings of the TC, Commons and Greens Committee and the Society's Commons and Greens Group, the following points had arisen:-

1. Provision of the bench having been covered in Minute 164, it was noted that the Group recommended that the plaque be designed by Paul Usher and araldited to the front edge of the bench. It was agreed that Mr. Ward would approach Paul Usher when the dimensions of the bench were known. *clearing round the selected*
2. the TC were proceeding with the ~~planting of the~~ memorial tree. It was agreed to accept the Group's recommendation not to affix a plaque.
3. it was agreed that, if not already available, the Society should acquire a copy of 'Our Common Land' published by the Open Spaces Soc.
4. the TC was pursuing cures for oil on the ponds with the assistance of BP Oil Pollution Research Dept.
5. The TC had given Miss Thurston permission to strike cuttings from willows around the ponds to provide a supply of replacement trees.



6. Miss Thurston had begun the compilation of a flora of the Common.
7. the campaign against gardening on the Common had received press and minor public support.

Mrs. Wang said that the definitive Herts. Footpaty Map had been published. Both the CC and DC had been asked why neither the Nicky Way nor the ULV Through Walk were shown.

In view of the decline of the Nicky Way from a 12 foot track to an 18 inch width, Mr. Jennings ~~was~~ requested, as the Society's representative on the Management Committee, to seek action from the DC Works Dept.

Miss Thurston said that the overhanging trees in Park Hill would receive attention from the arborist team in the autumn.

c. Environmental

Mrs. Wang reported that:-

1. Clocks - a watch repairer in Redbourn had been asked to provide an estimate.
2. Gilpin Green - work was almost completed and four adjacent residents had been asked to contribute to the cost of seed. The DC had agreed to maintain when completed.
3. Footpath 34, Batford/Bower Heath Lane - stiles, signs and steps had been constructed and erected by the DC.
4. Grit Bin, Oggelsbys Garage - removed as requested.
5. St. Albans cycle pathway - no action
6. Tennis Club hedge - no further contact since meeting. Suggested that hawthorn be planted in the autumn.
7. Police Station - no new offers of help have resulted from newsletter publicity.
8. House Agents' Boards - no further action due to lack of members' support.
9. Horses, environmental damage - a photographic record is available.

d. Transport

Mr. Haslar's written report was presented as follows:-

British Rail

1. Plaque (covered in detail in Minute 164(d))  
 presentation date - 29th September  
 publicity by BR  
 Secretary to check with Mr. Ward on who is responsible for the distribution of invitations.

2. Station House - BRPB has not issued any plans as yet.
3. Rear Jarvis building and Bovis House - this land is the property of BRPB
4. Pedestrian Tunnel - wing walls are the responsibility of local council.
5. Pavement by BR sign - BR to contact DC re repair.
6. Shrub beds - some demolition due to nuisance and re-construction due to frost damage will take place.

- despite original planning application providing for maintenance by BR. BR has offered to replant if the Society undertake responsibility for maintenance. It was agreed to inform BR that the Society's resources were not adequate to undertake maintenance work around Harpenden.

9. Litter bins - additions have been agreed
10. Timetables indicating platforms - to be placed in foyer.
11. Car Park Charge - notice to be erected in park
12. Footbridge - the Society has received permission to proceed providing BR has no expense.

e. Southdown

Mr. Truslove reported as follows:-

1. Edge of green - no action following meeting with DC on site when the erection of low posts near to kerb additional to existing posts and chains was agreed.
2. St. John's Road - in view of the fact that the Church was in communication with BR re possible use of vacant land for car parking, it was agreed to suspend action for the time being. Messrs. Truslove and Haslar to visit vicar to request a continuation of communication on the subject.

- the implications of making the road one-way were discussed.

3. Garages opposite Dark Lane - Mr. Truslove to write re overgrown condition of forecourt.
4. Sump - drained.

f. ULVG

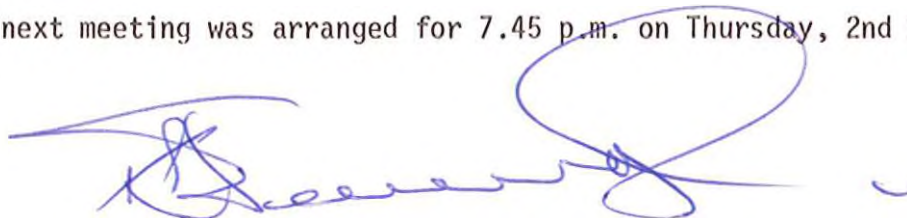
Mr. Truslove was asked to pursue the installation of the plaque on the brick cairn.

166. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Mrs. Waldren accepted use of an electric golf ball typewriter offered to the Society.
2. It was agreed that the Secretary would give telephonic notice of the next meeting in future to Committee members absent from meetings.
3. Harpenden Town Sign - the meeting approved the plaque designed by Paul Usher to be prepared as stainless steel with black paint-filled letters, subject to the rectification of the Society's name.

167. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was arranged for 7.45 p.m. on Thursday, 2nd October, 1986.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'D. J. ...', is written above a horizontal line.

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SECRETARY'S NOTE in connection with Minute 164(d) - Matters Arising, Transport

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Information subsequently received by the Secretary indicates that the presentation will take place at the Station, followed by a reception in the Council Chamber.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held on Thursday 21st August 1986 at Harpenden  
Hall at 7.30 p.m.

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Reports ~~from~~<sup>ESM</sup> Groups :-
  - Plans
  - Commons and Greens
  - Environmental
  - Transport
  - Southdown
  - ULVG
5. Any other business.
6. Date of next meeting.

## THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

### Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on Monday, 21 July 1986

Present: Mr K Jennings (Chairman)  
          Mr J Bush                   Mrs MJM Clitherow       Mr G Haslar  
          (LTG) Mr LGS Matthews       Mr IDG McNicoll       Miss JM Thurston  
          (EH) Mr EJ Truslove       Mr MF Vincent       Mrs M Waldren  
              Mrs L Wang       Mr CB Ward       Mr T Ward  
              Mrs D Ogilvie-Ward (Minutes)

Apologies for absence were received from Miss IM Leek, Mrs P Mowbray and Mr A Mellody.

### MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24 June 1986 were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:

- Minute 144 (a) para 1 - "Herts Ad." to read "Harpenden Ad."
- Minute 144 (b) para 1 - "footpath No. 24" to read "footpath No. 34"
- para 9 - "DC" to read "County Council"
- para 12 - "Mrs Wang said ... due to pressure of other interests" to read "Mrs Wang said ... because of family commitments".
- Minute 144 (c) last para - "Mrs Wang reported on ... the disabled housing project in Hickling Way" to read "Mrs Wang reported on ... the rehabilitation housing project in Hickling Way".
- Minute 144 (d) para 1 - "... the BR station" to read "... BR stations".
- Minute 147 - "... unavailability of the hall" to read "... unavailability of the Methodist Church Hall".

Mrs Wang queried Minute 144 (b) para 6. She said that she would not have taken action regarding arranging estimates for clocks ~~as~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~she had~~ believed that the Society would get involved and it was something on which the Society could take action. After discussion by the Committee, it was agreed that the minute is to stand as stated at the previous meeting.

### MATTERS ARISING

#### (a) ULVG

The Secretary reported that he had received a quotation from the Municipal Mutual Insurance Co., to cover the cine projector, slide projector, screen, all exhibition stands and ULVG tools at a cost of about £21. This had been accepted.

(b) Litter Bins

Mr Truslove reported that the Town Council were to pay half of the cost of the litter bins which would bear a plaque saying "Sponsored by the Town Council and the Harpenden Society".

REPORTS FROM GROUPS

(a) Southdown

Mr Truslove reported on the problem he was having in obtaining a copy of an extract from the map showing the location of the BR land behind the church in St John's Road. It was suggested that the Local History Society had a large supply of local maps and Mr Truslove agreed to pursue the matter further with them to enable him to present a report on the state of car parking in St John's Road.

Mr Truslove reported that a member of the District Council informed him that they have given the matter of the development of the roadway edge of the green a lot of thought but they had reluctantly come to the conclusion that the footpath should be permanent and be paved. This had been discussed by the Group but they objected to it being made permanent because it was dangerous to cross the road near the roundabout and cars would park on it if it was paved. Mr Truslove reported that he was meeting a member of the District Council on 22 July to discuss the matter further.

Mr Truslove said he had nothing to report on the air-raid shelter. It was reported that Websters had been unable to help in this matter.

(b) Plans

*to the District following their suggestion and following a meeting of the Southdown Group*

Mr Matthews read out a letter he had drafted/covering the following:

- Industry: No objections to some small scale industry as it would provide employment. The Committee agreed that "not consistently noisy" should be added to the letter.
- Offices: No objections so long as they are very small - in area size and height. The Committee agreed that "in keeping with the current buildings" should be added.
- Shopping: At present there are a number of different facilities; the Committee agreed that a shop with a good choice of household linen should be provided.
- Housing: The Committee agreed that residential accommodation for the elderly should be provided; it was pointed out that there is no sheltered accommodation in Harpenden; the Chairman suggested that the Southdown area seemed to be lacking in this type of accommodation and the Committee agreed that this suggestion should be put forward but referring specifically to "sheltered, warden-assisted accommodation".

*South*



Mr Haslar reported that 80% of the Macarthy and Stone development in Harpenden had already been sold although it is not yet finished. He said he hoped that any new housing would be provided by a housing association development and the Chairman replied that he hoped it would be a local authority venture so as not to bring in people from outside. No land had been earmarked for such a development.

- Transportation: The Committee agreed that there was difficulty in reaching the bus stop by the Trust Hall and suggested that the bus stop and shelter be moved. Also, there was no provision for cycle racks in the vicinity.
- Parking: The Committee agreed that this was well provided for.
- Leisure: The Committee agreed that the present Methodist and Trust Halls were well used and suggested that a "village hall" should be considered.
- Conservation and Environment: <sup>lane</sup> The Committee agreed that the area behind the shops in Piggotshill Road was an eyesore and they would like to see a fence erected to hide it. Mr Truslove also suggested that the Society does not at this stage want an indoor swimming pool for Southdown.

Mr Matthews agreed to work all these suggestions and comments into his letter. Mr Truslove referred to the traffic congestion at Dark Lane, but this was outside the area of Mr Matthews' letter. Mr Truslove raised the subject of a pelican crossing opposed to a pedestrian crossing and suggested that the type of crossing should be considered. It was agreed that the pedestrian crossing was exceptionally well used and the Chairman suggested that if a pedestrian crossing was the better option, this subject should be raised in Mr Matthews' letter.

Planning applications were commented on as follows:

- 5/0841/86 Gulbourne Ltd - erection of 2 semi-detached houses, rear of 54/56 Grove Road. The Society considered that this application still represented a degree of overdevelopment: one dwelling would be more reasonable and would better match the detached dwellings in the immediate vicinity.
- 0609/86 John James and Co - Installation of a new shop front, 5 Station Road: the Society was pleased to note that the frame of the proposed shop front was to be wood; no information regarding the fascia and projecting sign was available.
- 0432/86 Erection of 5 detached houses - The Spinney, 42 West Common: This is in the conservation area; the present house looks in good repair and the Society would oppose its demolition. The types of houses shown would be out of place both in relation to the present house and the immediate houses (Nos. 42A and B). Even without the present house the plans represent an overdevelopment of the site. The Society recommends refusal.
- 5/0927/86 BUPA Hospitals - Change of use from staff bedroom to ward accommodation and provision of 13 additional carpark spaces. Ambrose Lane. At present there is a reasonable balance between cars/car parking and landscaping in the area shown as "main car park". The Society therefore think that the proposed removal of some of that landscaping in order to make space for more car parking should be rejected.



(Cont...) Following the 1983 application the Society understood that an additional 24 carparking spaces were finally allowed for 8 extra beds for patients, which was, if correct, hardly pro-rata to the 27 spaces applied for for 16 beds. If extra car parking spaces are necessary and agreed, it would be better on balance to place them just north-west of the main carpark and close to the edge of Ambrose Wood and with added landscaping to screen cars from the open country to the north of the hospital.

- 5/0942/86 Craigmyle: 2-storey front extension to offices, the Stable Block, The Grove, Pipers Lane, Harpenden - The Society questions additional office use in the Green Belt area.
- 5/1004/86 Erection of 7' high close boarded fence, 21 The Pleasance, Harpenden: The Society would regret the loss of the present high, mature hedge which effectively screens the dwelling at present, and would oppose its substitution with the proposed fence. We urge conditions to protect the existing hedge.

Mr Matthews reported that a member of the Society had telephoned him about a garage which had been erected in front of the building line at the junction of Ridgewood Drive and Luton Road. Mr Matthews had made enquiries and discovered that the garage was shown on a development plan and the application had been approved in June 1981. He said it was possible for something to be done to screen the back of the garage and had written to the Council; he awaited a reply.

On a general planning question, Mr Truslove asked if the matter of new housing levels for the county had quietened down; Mrs Wang replied that encroachment on the Green Belt had been opposed.

Mrs Wang reported on her attendance at the meeting of the Town Council held the previous week:

*in Rothamsted Park*

- A new indoor swimming pool <sup>is</sup> being considered in addition to the present outdoor pool.
- The Harpenden Motors site and "The George" and rear buildings will be included in expected new application.
- The Town Centre team did not know of current work refurbishment of "The Harpenden Arms" when requesting immediate response to enhancement of the rear passageway.
- The Beacon, 7 Manland Avenue is now on the market; Jarvis are not pursuing its conversion to 3 flats but have received permission for 2 houses in the garden.
- *An attempt to purchase*  
Nos. 5, 7 and 9 Milton Road ~~have been purchased~~ by developers who planned to demolish these Edwardian houses and replace them with blocks of flats. The purchaser of Nos. 13 and 15 is unknown. The Society can do nothing until an application goes forward.
- Waldergrave Park open space: Mrs Wang suggested that the Society Secretary should write to the Director of Works and Technical Services to enquire about its future. Mr Haslar suggested that the area should be fenced off. It was decided to refer back to previous correspondence and request an on-site meeting with the officer responsible.

(c) Environmental

- Clocks: Mrs Wang reported that, as an individual, she had approached a factory in Colharbour Lane regarding their clock, which they repaired within 3 days. She noticed, on her return to thank the firm, that their clock was the same make as the one outside Universal Toys. She spoke to the clock-repairer and told him about the clocks outside Universal Toys and 29 High Street. Mrs Wang said that the Harpenden Society was interested in getting the clocks repaired and asked for an estimate. Spoke to both firms who believe that the Society will contribute towards the cost. The Committee agreed that the stance would not be changed until an estimate was received. Mrs Wang reported that Mr Stockwell of Universal Toys was aware that the public were irritated that his clock had not worked for 5 years. Mr Truslove said that the Society must not get involved as a contributor towards repair costs <sup>if</sup> ~~when~~ it could prove cheaper to replace the clocks concerned.
- Gilpin Green: Mrs Wang reported that the work to dig out the tree roots, as originally requested, has now been agreed.
- Footpath No. 34, Batford/Bower Heath Lane: the District Council has agreed to clear obstructions, to build steps down the steep bank, to erect stiles at either end and to erect official sign posts.
- Police Station garden: the police denied they had agreed to water the shrubs but had now agreed that the policeman on late shift would water them in the evening. Mrs Wang has asked, in the Newsletter, for volunteers to weed the garden.
- St Albans cycle pathway: this is not being used because of overhanging branches and the overgrown verge which is cut once a year. The Council will approach the private owners.
- Halfords sign: this has now been removed.
- Grit bin: the County Council has agreed to remove the grit bin by Ogglesby's Garage, Luton Road.

(d) Commons and Greens

Miss Thurston reported that the Group met on 26 June; the following were discussed:

- Memorial seat for Dr Joan Moore: In discussion, Miss Thurston suggested to the Committee that Dr Moore would have preferred a simple bench in either the bracken area near Eastmoor Park/Cravells Road or on the north side of Walkers Road with a view down the Common, and that the Council's permission would have to be sought. The Chairman agreed that the Secretary should seek the necessary permission. The wording on the plaque could be decided later.
- Gardening of frontages on East/West Common: Miss Thurston reported that the Group deplored the gardening done, especially the planting of garden flowers, although they accepted that a little grass-mowing was tolerable.

*(if not sufficient for Leary)*

- Miss Thurston reported that the grass on the common ~~would~~ be flailed before the school holidays, i.e. July, to enable the children to play in it.
- It was believed that rabbits were threatened by myxomatosis again. Squirrels were abundant at the top of the common and were damaging trees by removing the bark. The gorse was regenerating. Lady Bawden had given a willow-tree which had been planted by the ponds; this had died. Miss Thurston suggested that cuttings be taken from remaining trees and agreed to take this up with Mr J Slater. Heath orchids had been reported on the common, in a different area.
- Car parking on the common, even in permitted areas, must be prohibited in wet weather to prevent damage to turf; chains and notices required. Two residents of Queens Road had offered to be voluntary wardens and place stickers on cars parked on the common.
- The floods near the "Queen's Head" were due to 2 sumps not being kept clear.
- The next meeting of the Commons and Greens Group would be on 20 August.

(e) Transport

Mr Haslar reported that the broken panes of glass had been replaced on the station footbridge; the clock on platform 2/3 had been repaired. The Committee agreed that the temporary steps into the carpark have been well constructed and should be kept for an emergency. Mr Haslar reported that a meeting with Mr Shooter had been arranged at Harpenden on 25 July; there were a number of items to be discussed: the railway footbridge over Carlton Road, the stationmaster's house, replacement of shrubs, hanging baskets, and date for the plaque presentation.

Mrs Wang asked if the wing walls by the tunnel in Station Road were BR's responsibility and suggested they needed repainting. It was suggested that a member of the Town Council should be invited to attend the meeting on 25 July, as a courtesy; Mr Haslar said they need not be involved formally. Mr Haslar confirmed that BR would prefer a mid-morning presentation of the plaque.

Mrs Wang raised the following points which had arisen at the Town Council meeting:

*A1081*

- The Council had agreed to resurface the road at the dangerous junction at Redbourn Lane / *A1081 junction*.
- Regarding carparking on *the new projecting* footways in Leyton Road, by Waitrose, nothing can be done officially until the road markings are painted.

Mr Haslar reported that on 18 and 21 July a survey was being carried out at Station Road/Carlton Road goods yard carpark exit to monitor the number of vehicles.

(f) ULVG

Mr T Ward reported that he had had a look at the Leasy Bridge pathway; no work had been done and it was deteriorating. He suggested that the pathway should be given the same status as the "Nicky Line" i.e. pedestrian path and horse track.

The Secretary agreed to write to Mr Cope and ask who he had referred it to. Mrs Wang suggested a management committee should be formed on similar lines to the one for the "Nicky Line" and confirmed that money had been set aside for this footpath.

Mrs Wang reported that the footpath through the National Children's Home grounds could be opened soon. The Committee agreed the Chairman's proposal that the Secretary should write to the Countryside Management Officer on this subject.

#### ITEM 6 - PAINTING FOOTBRIDGE

This matter had already been taken by the Committee.

#### ITEM 7 - PRESENTATION OF AWARD TO BR

This matter had already been taken by the Committee.

#### ITEM 8 - ENHANCEMENTS SCHEMES

The Secretary reported that he had received a letter from Mr Cope, Works and Technical Services, requesting items to programme a list of environmental improvement schemes and requiring a response within 2 weeks. The Secretary had replied giving details of the following:

- the "car park" on the Common, Leyton Road, opposite British Legion.
- Entrance to Bowers Way West carpark.
- Underground toilets adjacent to Harpenden Motors site.
- Church Green/High Street junction by Victoria Wine shop.
- Police station - rear of building used as carpark.
- "The George" public house.
- The unofficial "footpath" along the Southdown Green.
- The air-raid shelter between Fine Fare carpark and the Southdown Road shops.

Mr Truslove suggested the garage opposite Dark Lane where the brick wall was falling down and agreed to write on this subject.

The Committee agreed that the drainage pond by the rubbish tip should be roofed over as it was dangerous to children, and there was evidence of dumping in the area.

The Committee agreed that the forecourt of the Harpenden Public Halls needed enhancing: the litter bin needs replacing and the seats repaired.

#### ITEM 9 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Treasurer presented an unaudited balance sheet, as at 20 July 1986, which detailed income and expenditure.

Mrs Wang suggested that leaflets about the Society be placed in the Library with the possibility of increasing membership. It was pointed out that no interest had been raised at the recent exhibition at the Further Education Centre.

The Secretary thanked Mrs Ogilvie-Ward for standing-in to take the Minutes.

The Secretary gave the Chairman literature from the Civic Trust regarding the "Pride of Place 1986" competition.

Regarding the tennis club, Mrs Wang reported that the planting done earlier this year had died; she agreed to speak to the chairman of the tennis club to ask that it be done properly.

Mrs Wang reported that the Town Council was disillusioned with the District Council over the "Nicky Line"; the people in Park Hill were concerned about the leaves shed from the trees. *and obstruction of light.*

Mr T Ward informed Mrs Wang that photographs from previous Society exhibitions, etc, were passed to the History Society for safe-keeping.

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was arranged for Thursday, 21 August 1986.

*E. H. S. S. S.*  
21-8-86.

July 1986

20 July 1986

UNAUDITED

HARPENDEN SOCIETY AND UPPER LEA VALLEY GROUP  
Analysis of Income and Expenditure for Six Months to 30 June

1985		1986
-----		-----
£		£
2104.15	Balance in hand 30 June	1994.22
2380.59	less Opening Balance	1593.92
-----		-----
-276.44	Excess of Income over Expenditure	400.30
-----		-----
	INCOME	
	-----	
1046.30	Subscriptions and Donations	961.55
98.27	Interest received	57.14
	Refund Bus Shelter Repairs	136.22
-12.00	Functions account (loss)	-7.10
3.00	Sundry	.00
-----		-----
1135.57	Total Income	1147.81
-----		-----
	EXPENDITURE	
	-----	
41.18	Hire of accomodation for public meetings	72.03
36.00	Subscriptions to other Societies	39.00
160.98	Printing, Advertising	223.35
176.13	Office expenses (postage, telephone etc)	172.98
	ULVG - Expenses	
-41.20	less Income	51.50
220.86	Photography and Display Equipment	73.00
36.66	Insurance	24.00
.00	Local History Society, use of rooms	.00
58.37	Society Award Plaque	62.90
300.00	Eric Morecambe Memorial Trust	
300.00	Repair of Town Sign	
111.03	Bus Shelter Repairs	
12.00	Other	28.75
-----		-----
<del>1370.83</del> 1672.01	Total Expenditure	747.51
-----		-----
-235.26	Excess of Income over Expenditure	400.30
<del>275.44</del> 170.44		=====
	FUNCTIONS ACCOUNT	
£		£
.00	Wine & Cheese Evening	.00
-12.00	AGM Refreshments	-7.10
.00	Other receipts less costs	.00
-----		-----
-12.00		-7.10
=====		=====

I.D.G. McNicoll  
Treasurer

20 July 1986

UNAUDITED

HARPENDEN SOCIETY AND UPPER LEA VALLEY GROUP  
Analysis of Income and Expenditure for Six Months to 30 June

1985		1986
----		----
£		£
2104.15	Balance in hand 30 June	1994.22
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INCOME

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300.00	Eric Morecambe Memorial Trust	
300.00	Repair of Town Sign	
111.03	Bus Shelter Repairs	
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-----		-----
<del>1370.81</del>	Total Expenditure	747.51
1412.01		-----
<del>235.26</del>	Excess of Income over Expenditure	400.30
<del>-276.44</del>		=====
=====		

FUNCTIONS ACCOUNT

1985		1986
-----		-----
£		£
.00	Wine & Cheese Evening	.00
-12.00	AGM Refreshments	-7.10
.00	Other receipts less costs	.00
-----		-----
-12.00		-7.10
=====		=====

I.D.G. McNicoll  
Treasurer

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held at Harpenden Hall on Monday 21st July 1986  
at 7. 45 p.m.

---

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Reports from Groups:-
  - Southdown
  - Plans
  - Environmental
  - Commons and Greens
  - Transport
  - ULVG
5. Memorial seat.
6. Painting footbridge.
7. Presentation of Award to B.R.
8. Enhancement Schemes.
- 9.. Any other business.
10. Date of next meeting.



## THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday, 24th June, 1986.

Present: Mr. K. Jennings, Chairman  
Mr. J. Bush, Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow, Mr. G. Haslar, Miss I.M. Leek,  
Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Mr. I.D.G. McNicoll, Mrs. P. Mowbray,  
Miss J.M. Thurston, Mr. E. Truslove, Mr. M.F. Vincent,  
Mrs. M. Waldren, Mrs. L. Wang, Mr. C.B. Ward

Apologies for absence were received from

### 142. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the committee held on the 19th May, 1986 were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:-

Minute 126(b) para 2 - replace "the site" with "planting"

para 6 - "Countryside Officer" to read "Countryside Management Officer"

Minute 127(b) para 2 - Item 1 to read "C & A and Universal Toys clocks"

### 143. MATTERS ARISING

#### a. U.L.V.G. (Minutes 119(c) and 126(b))

A quotation is awaited from the Municipal Mutual insurance which will be compared with the quote from the Commercial Union for a premium of £30 with a £10 excess.

(Minutes 110 and 126(b))

A reply was awaited from the Countryside Management Officer.

#### b. Commons and Greens (Minute 127(b))

Miss Thurston provided a photograph of Dr. Joan Moore.

#### c. Litter Bins (Minute 130)

A reply was awaited from the TC, prior to writing to the DC.

#### d. Design Seminar (Minute 136)

Mr. Ward reported on his attendance.

### 144. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

#### a. Southdown

Despite good publicity in the <sup>Harpenden</sup> Herts Ad. and contact with the police, the Environmental Health Officer and the Herts Wood Preservation co. re. the airraid shelter, efforts have proved abortive. Websters, builders are searching their records.

Damaged signs in the Fine Fayre car park have been replaced.

Mr. Truslove reported that he had written to the DC concerning the lack of progress in developing the roadway edge of the green.

The Group was asked to present a report on the state of car parking in St. John's Road.

b. Environmental

Mrs. Wang reported:

1. a letter had been sent to the DC re. lack of sign posts to and the removal of an abstraction at entry points to footpath No. 34, Batford-Bower Heath Lane.
2. BR Best Kept Station Competition - this being organised by by BR in conjunction with Rotary International.
3. BR car park - lighting of steps in hand. Further car park and road improvements on the west side in 1987.
4. Gilpin Green - Luton Church Communities programme has commenced work but the volunteers are unsuited to the heavy work required.
5. a tour with the DC Arborist to discuss unresolved problems including Waldegrave Park open space and Amenbury Lane planting.
6. Clocks - it was agreed that the Society could not become involved financially in their repair.
7. BR Ladies WC - verbal appreciation to new female station attendant following improvement.
8. Waitrose tree damaged by vandals has been attended to by self.
9. Halfords free-standing sign - pavement obstruction to be pursued with the DC.
10. Fish van - reported to police. No action taken.
11. Estate Agents' Boards - survey has revealed many remain up beyond legal time limit.

Mrs. Wang said that she would not be seeking re-election to the Committee in 1987 due to pressure of other interests.

c. Plans

Planning applications were commented on as follows:-

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 5/0626/86 | Vienna House, Park Avenue South, A.P. Pearson, change of use of two first floor rooms from residential to office use. Objection to change of use.                            |
| 5/0657/86 | R/O 43, 45 & 47 St. James Road, R.W. Gray, erection of two semi-detached dwellings. No objection if planning permission for 70 Willoughby Road is taken up at the same time. |

- 5/0661/86 R/O 4-8 Amenbury Lane, Gemchrist Ltd., erection of two semi-detached dwellings. Objection on the grounds of over-development.
- 5/030A/86 29 High Street, A.P. Knights, illuminated fascia sign and illuminated projecting sign. A retrospective application for an unsuitable fascia in a conservation area and an unnecessary projecting sign.
- 5/0750/86 3 Church Green, extension of shop and installation of shop front. No objection if front, fascia and letterings are in a style in conformity with surrounding premises.
- 5/0798/86 All Saints Church, Station Road, single storey extension. Request resiting in order to avoid destruction of mature trees which were not marked on the plans.
- 5/0631/86 42 High Street, Stimpsons, proposal for a new shop front. Objection on the grounds that the proposed front is contrary to the District Council's intentions.
- 5/0752/86 122 Southdown Road, P and P Patel, two storey rear extension and new shop front. Objection on the grounds that the proposed front is contrary to the DC's intentions.
- 5/0785/86 Adjacent 6 Manland Avenue, I.F. Cornish, erection of two detached houses with garages and erection of detached house with garage. Objection to both applications on the grounds of lack of privacy and the merit of the original house for listing and retention of its grounds.
- 5/0786/86
- 5/048A/86 49 High Street, Thresher and Co. Ltd., internally illuminated fascia signs. Objection on the grounds that the signs are unsympathetic.

It was noted that Craig Ian Homes Ltd. had withdrawn its appeal against refusal for the erection of twenty-one detached houses on land between Roundwood Lane and Brackendale Grove.

The Secretary reported that he had replied with comments to the proposals contained in a letter from the DC regarding the "enhancement" of the area between The Harpenden Arms and 1 Station Road/2 Southdown Road.

Mrs. Wang reported on her attendance at the meeting concerning the disabled housing project in Hickling Way.

d. Transport

Mr. Haslar reported that the Network South East colours of red and cream had been introduced at the ~~the~~ station.

No reply has been received to a request to the BR Passenger Manager for permission to repaint Carlton Road footbridge.

The Secretary was asked to write to the DC regarding the replacement of yellow no-parking road lines in the High Street after 16 months delay.

It was noted that a DC survey of parking is anticipated and that the TC has produced its own survey.

e. Commons and Greens

Miss Thurston reported on the meeting of the TC Commons and Greens Cmt.:-

1. if sufficient hay is available a local farmer will cut and carry. There was a discussion on action to be taken re. gorse, etc. if hay is insufficient to attract the farmer.
2. possible use of a flexible boom to absorb oil from road wash on Southdown ponds. Miss Thurston had offered to contact the Oil Pollution Research Unit at the Orielton Centre of the Field Studies Council for further information.
3. Committee to view site before agreeing to the new suggestion that Dr. Moore's sister should sponsor an existing tree on the common.
4. Society requested to consider placing the memorial seat between the two cricket pitches on the common

Mr. Ward reported that the plaque for the Town Sign containing wording approved by the TC, was being designed at the present time.

d. U.L.V.G.

Mr. Ward reported that the round memorial plaques had been affixed and the cairn for the main plaque would be erected in July.

145. COMMEMORATIVE SEAT

Miss Thurston and Messrs. J. Bush and K. Jennings were appointed to make recommendations re. the design and siting.

146. HARPENDEN SOCIETY AWARD - 1986

A date for the presentation during July was anticipated.

147. ENVIRONMENT EXHIBITION

It was agreed to cancel all plans for this exhibition due to unavailability of the hall.

148. DISTRICT COUNCIL MINUTES

The following items are of interest:-

1. salting and gritting - emphasis to be on main roads and especially difficult areas.
2. car parking reviews of Carlton Road, Rothamsted Avenue and Kirkdale Road
3. study projects for - can bank  
indoor swimming pool  
maximum use of sports centre.

149. SPEAKERS - 1986/87

The following programme has been arranged:-

Tuesday, 16th September, 1986	Mr. R. Costa, Herts CC, County Surveyors Dept. - "Traffic in Harpenden - what does the future hold?"
Wednesday, 5th November, 1986	Miss Sharon Brown, Herts & Middx Trust for Nature Conservation - "The Work of the Herts & Middx Trust for Nature Conservation"
Wednesday, 10th December, 1986	Mr. Malcolm Reding and Mr. Chris Hughes, City and District of St. Albans - "What makes us (and Britain) so untidy?"
Wednesday, 25th February, 1987	Mr. Paul Johnson, Herts/Barnet Countryside Management Service - "What is Countryside Management?"

150. NEWSLETTER

Copy required by the 4th July, 1986. Print date the 14th July, 1986.

151. FINANCE

The Treasurer reported that at the 23rd June, 1986 the Society had the following balances on

Current Account	£628.91
Deposit Account	£1,525.26

152. MEMBERSHIP

As at the 17th June, 1986 subscriptions were

Paid	501
Unpaid	168

153. PROGRAMMES

Members' programmes, costing £48 to print, were available for distribution.

154. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was arranged for Monday, 21st July, 1986.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held on Tuesday 24th June 1986 at Harpenden Hall  
at 7.45 p.m.

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Reports from Groups:- Southdown  
Environmental  
Plans  
Transport  
Commons and Greens  
ULVG
5. Memorial Seat/tree.
6. Painting Carlton Road Footbridge.
7. Presentation of Award Plaque to B.R.
8. Environment Exhibition '86 - Mr. Truslove to report
9. District Council Minutes - brief oral report.
10. Style of minutes of this Committee's meetings.
11. Any other business.
12. Date of next meeting.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on Monday, 19th May, 1986.

Present: Mr. K. Jennings, Chairman  
Mr. J. Bush, Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow, Miss I.M. Leek,  
Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Mr. M.F. Vincent, Mrs. L. Wang,  
Mrs. M. Waldren, Mr. C.B. Ward, Mr. E. Ward.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. G. Haslar,  
Mrs. P. Mowbray, Miss J.M. Thurston and Mr. E. Truslove.

125. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 21st April, 1986 were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:

- Minute 117 delete "but with the following amendment .... Hertfordshire".
- Minute 118 "approach had been made to the ULVG" to read "approach had been made by the ULVG".
- Minute 119(b) "contrary to instructions" to read "contrary to intentions".
- Minute 123 final sentence to read ".... for the Nicky Line Committee, but the Secretary would be asked to participate".

126. MATTERS ARISING

a. Redbourn Triangle (Minute 117)

Mr. Matthews confirmed that he had written to the DC as requested.

b. Environmental (minute 119(a))

Mrs. Wang said that the condition of the Ladies' WC at the station was much improved.

Tennis Club - Mrs. Wang said that she had met the Chairman following her written request for a meeting with representatives of the Club with a view to discussing constructive action to improve the situation. The Chairman did not agree wholly with Mrs. Wang's views. However, redundant court wire was to be erected to protect the site from vandalism. The Society had undertaken to give some minor assistance.

The ULVG have identified the area of damage by overgrazing as the Lower Luton Road to Hyde Mill.

A letter has been sent to BR urging the installation of a light over the steps to the station car park.

Mr. Jennings said that it was not his intention that wardens be provided by this Society for the Nicky Line and the common.

126.  
b.  
(cont.)

Leasey Bridge Footpath (Minute 110)

The ULVG had replied that volunteers were not available. Mrs. Wang said that the footpath was the property of the DC and that the Countryside Officer with responsibility for the Lea Valley should be approached *Mangok*.

JB

ULVG (Minute 119(c))

Following the refusal of the ULVG's insurers to waive the excess, the Secretary was asked to ask the Municipal Mutual if they would cover the tools, valued at approx. £1,200, under the Society's policy.

JB

Any Other Business (Minute 123)

The History Society continued to negotiate with the DC. Meanwhile the Society would continue to use the meeting room on an unofficial basis.

The Secretary said that he had not yet produced the specimen minutes.

127. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

a. Southdown

A letter of complaint had been written re. inattention to winter ice in Fine Fayre car park.

Mr. Ward said that the fence around the Fine Fayre service area was now complete.

Mr. Truslove would be asked to contact the police with a view to seeking the support of the London Postal Region in ascertaining the ownership of the airraid shelter following local concern over misuse by local children.

ET

Mr. Truslove would be asked to contact Fine Fayre re. the damaged signs in the car park.

ET

b. Environmental

Mrs. Wang reported:

1. Police station garden had been planted by Jarvis and the Society would resume responsibility for maintenance.
2. Sun Lane Spinney - action had been taken re. dumped, cut branches.
3. Estate Agents' Boards - a survey of N.E. Harpenden revealed for overdue signs.

it was agreed that the newsletter should contain an appeal for the public to report overdue boards in their vicinity.

MW

4. BR Property Board had not replied re. Station House.
5. BR had not replied re Best Kept Station competition.



127.  
B.  
(cont.)

6. DC had not replied re. TPO on skyline tree  
26 Hollybush Lane.

Of the matters raised by members of the public and dealt with by Mrs. Wang since the last meeting, the following required further action:

1. C & A Clock - Mrs. Wang to approach management *Universal Toys* LW
2. Disabled housing, Hickling Way - Mrs. Wang to attend meeting as an observer only. LW

Mrs. Wang also give details of the matters of interest arising from the TC May Meeting.

c. Commons and Greens

Miss Thurston reported:

1. on her continued efforts to obtain a photograph of Dr. Joan Moore.
2. on plans for a meeting of the Group in June.
3. on an investigation of insect damage to the cricket pitch. JT
4. on an offer from Dr. Joan Moore's sister to plant a memorial tree which had been passed on to the TC.

d. Plans

Planning applications were commented on as follows:

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 5/035A/86 | 4a Church Green, Collinsons Estate Agents,<br>Externally illuminated signboard and projecting sign. Recommended refusal.  |
| 5/0495/86 | 66 Grove Road, Mr. and Mrs. W. Saunders<br>Two storey extension and additional garage.<br>Recommended refusal.            |
| 5/0573/86 | Vaughan Road, G.F.T. Steer<br>Change of use from dwelling to offices.<br>Recommended refusal.                             |
| 5/0597/86 | 32 Marquis Lane, Jon Bareham Ltd.<br>2 semi-detached houses and refurbishment of no 32. Recommended improvement of plans. |

Appeals were commented on as follows:

Land between Roundwood Lane and Brackendale Grove. Craig Ian Homes Ltd. Supported DC in refusal.

33 High Street, Mrs. J. Jenkin. Supported DC in refusal.

127. d. (cont.) There had been correspondence with Mr. French of 50 Roundwood park regarding:

1. unauthorised signs at The Old Bell
2. proposed industrial units in Roundwood Lane.

e. Transport

Following an offer that senior pupils of St. George's School would repaint the footbridge, it was agreed that the Society would supply the paint. Further enquiries to be made re. graffiti resistant paint.

GH

128. COUNTY STRUCTURE PLAN REVIEW

It was agreed that the Society would not purchase a copy.

129. ENVIRONMENT EXHIBITIONS

Thanks were expressed to the organisers of the exhibition in the Further Education rooms.

Following a report from the Secretary on the progress of the arrangements for the Autumn Exhibition, it was agreed to:

1. book the Methodist Hall
2. give organisations that had not replied to the renewed invitation to participate the date fixed and a deadline for acceptance

JB

JB

130. LITTER BINS

It was agreed to:

1. accept the recommendation on the sub-committee to adopt the BRAUNTON BIN, inclusive of plastic bag or basket at the choice of the DC, with canopy.
2. propose sites to the DC as follows:
  - a. entrance to Grove Road School
  - b. seat, Cravells Road car park
  - c. Fish and chip shop. Piggottshill Lane
  - d. North side, Piggottshill Lane by shops.

131. COMMEMORATIVE SEAT

The Secretary reported that he had written to the TC seeking permission in principle to locate the seat on the common. The Committee ratified their agreement to this location.

The choice of design was deferred to the next meeting.

132. HARPENDEN SOCIETY AWARD - 1986

Mr. Ward said that delivery of the plaque was anticipated during the first week of June.

133. TOWN SIGN

It was agreed to prepare an engraved credit plate for affixing to the Town Sign, subject to the approval of the TC.

JB

134. ULVG

It was noted that although the plaques were to hand and the sites agreed no progress had been made. The offer of a craftsman's help had been refused.

135. NICKY WAY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

It was agreed that Mr. K. Jennings should represent the Society on this Committee.

KJ

136. DESIGN SEMINAR

It was agreed that Mr. E. Ward would attend the Seminar to be organised by the DC on "Redundant Industrial and Commercial Buildings" on Wednesday, 18th June, 1986 at a cost of £6.50.

EW

137. CIVIC SERVICE

Mrs. Waldren agreed to represent the Society on Sunday, 8th June, 1986 at 11.15 a.m. at St. Nicholas Church.

MW

138. HERTS FEDERATION

It was agreed that the Society would not subscribe to the Farming and Wild Life Advisory Group.

139. GLOBAL SPORT AID

No action.

140. ST. ALBANS CIVIC SOCIETY

It was noted that this Society is to commence awarding merit plaques.

141. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 24th June, 1986, at 7.45 p.m. in the History Room.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held on Monday 19th May 1986 at Harpenden Hall  
at 7.45 p.m.

---

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Reports from Groups:-
  - Southdown
  - Environmental
  - Commons and Greens
  - Plans
  - Transport
  - ULVG
5. County Structure Plan Review 1986.
6. Environment Exhibition.
7. Litter Bins.
8. Commemorative seat on the Common.
9. Any other business.
10. Date of next meeting.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on Monday, 21 April 1986

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Present: Mr E H Truslove (in the Chair)  
Mr H J Bush                      Mrs M J M Clitherow                      Mr E Ward  
Mr W G Haslar                      Mr L J G Matthews                      Mr A Mellody  
Mrs P Mowbray                      Miss J M Thurston                      Mr M F Vincent  
Mrs M Waldren                      Mrs L Wang                      Mr C B Ward  
Mrs D Ogilvie-Ward (Minutes)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr K P Jennings, Miss I M Leek and Mr I D G McNicoll.

CHAIRMAN

In the absence of Mr K Jennings, Mr E H Truslove took the Chair.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24 March 1986 were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:

- Minute 107 c.                      delete "Team" and insert "Committee."
- Minute 107 e.                      "Both Mr Truslove and Mrs Wang had been" to read  
"Both Mr Truslove and Mrs Wang will be unable ....".
- Minute 108 a.                      5/0238/86 & 5/016A/86:  
"Consider shop front unsympathetic ..." to read  
"Consider shop facia unsympathetic ...".
- Minute 108 a.                      Methodist Church, High Street:  
The third sentence to read "Preceding this objection the Secretary had received details of the winning design from the Church."  
Delete the last sentence.
- Minute 108 c.                      Carlton Road footbridge - Graffiti:  
Add to the last sentence: "... by St George's pupils."
- Minute 108 c.                      Grove Road:  
The sentence to read "It was agreed that the traffic congestion in Grove Road was sometimes quite serious and something should be done to alleviate it in view of the location of the schools."
- Minute 108 d.ii                      "... District Council contract" to read "... District Council contact".
- Minute 108 d.                      Ladies WC at the BR station:  
to read "... Mrs Wang said she had approached the local supervisor on the telephone and would follow this up with a letter."

REDBOURN TRIANGLE

Mr Truslove proposed that this item be taken straight away as it was omitted from the Agenda of the last meeting because of lack of time.

Mr Matthews then reported that the Redbourn Triangle (an area of 31.5 acres and called "an amenity corridor") in the Green Belt had been the subject of a detailed study by the District Council which had been made public to people in Redbourn. Mr Matthews had obtained a copy of the report from the Press Officer of the Redbourn Association. He had summarised the report as containing 5 options:

- 1) Little change (i.e. Green Belt boundary to remain as now).
- 2) Recreation and environmental enhancement.
- 3) Medium intensity of development (light industrial).
- 4) Maximum development (industrial and residential).
- 5) Maximum development (residential).

Mr Matthews explained the background to the Redbourn Triangle and the outcome of a questionnaire which had been circulated with the report. He produced a draft letter to St Albans District Council.

The Committee agreed that a letter should be sent to Mr I S Cope, Director of Works and Technical Services, St Albans District Council, and copied to the Secretary of the Redbourn Association, on the lines drafted by Mr Matthews, but with the following amendment: ~~"This Society would be prepared to reconsider its views if there is a need for development in Hertfordshire."~~

L MATTHEWSMATTERS ARISINGDr Joan Moore

105. Mr Bush said he would like to obtain a photograph of Dr Joan Moore for the Harpenden Society records.  
Miss Thurston said she would try to arrange this.

MISS  
THURSTON

Mr Bush suggested that he should write to the Town Council to seek permission for a seat with a commemorative plaque to be placed on the Common. The Committee agreed and it was suggested that a suitable site must be chosen carefully because of vandalism. Mr Bush agreed to send a letter on this subject to members of the Commons and Greens Group to give them an opportunity to comment. Mrs Waldren suggested that the seat be engraved and the Committee took note of her suggestion.

H BUSHH BUSH

105. Mr Bush said he <sup>had written</sup> ~~would write~~ a letter of appreciation to Mr Holdness, for his work with the Plans Group.

H BUSH

Mr Mellody agreed to act as Refreshment Manager and be responsible for licence applications, etc. This was accepted by the Committee.

107. Harpenden Town Sign  
Mr E Ward said he had been given an amendment to the original sign (not plaque). This was<sup>not</sup> accepted by the Committee.
- 107 b. Harpenden Town Centre Inset Map  
Mr Truslove reported that he had made no further progress with regard to finding a speaker.
- 107 f. District Council Minutes  
Mr Bush produced a copy of the Government White Paper "Lifting The Burden", which he placed before the Committee.
- 107 g. Bus Shelters  
Mr Bush confirmed that, as Secretary, he had not received a cheque from the Town Council; Mr Haslar agreed to chase this up with the Town Clerk. W HASLAR
- 108 a. Harpenden Motors Site  
Mrs Wang reported that nothing had happened since the application had been submitted; it was possible that the application may not go through. This was announced by the Chairman of the Plans Advisory Panel in his summary of work to the Town Council Annual Meeting on 14 April.
- 108 c. Transport  
Mr Haslar reported that no effort had been made by British Rail to remove the ~~the~~ rubbish behind the new Jarvis building.
- Illumination of Car Park Steps  
Mr Haslar reported that he had spoken with Mr Shooter of British Rail and the light was the outcome. Mrs Wang agreed to follow this up. MRS WANG
- Parking Problems in St John's Road  
Mr Truslove reported that he had not yet spoken to the Vicar at St John's church, but he would do so. E TRUSLOVE
- Carlton Road Footbridge - Graffiti  
Mrs Waldren reported that she had spoken to the headmasters of St George's and John Lawes schools regarding the graffiti on the footbridge. It was the first time that direct action had been taken with the headmasters who agreed to speak to their pupils.
- 108 d. Green Lawns  
Mrs Wang had nothing to report on this.
- Sycamore saplings in Bamville Wood  
Mr Haslar reported that the Council had planted new trees.
111. Redbourn Triangle  
This had been taken before "Matters arising".

110. Leasey Bridge Footpath

Mr Bush confirmed that an approach had been made to the ULVG for assistance. Mrs Wang said that assistance could be arranged if specific dates, etc, could be provided. It was agreed that the Secretary should write to Heather Catterfield, Secretary of the ULVG.

H BUSH108. REPORTS FROM GROUPSa. Environmental

Mrs Wang said she had been contacted by Miss Handford, requesting the Society to urge gritting of public car parks in winter, particularly Fine Fare's. Mr Truslove reported on his recent correspondence with Fine Fare and agreed to contact Miss Handford.

E TRUSLOVE

Mrs Wang reported that overgrazing was a problem and asked for examples of it to be reported to her. Mr Truslove reported that Mr Jennings's view was that there should be a system of wardens for the common and the "Nicky Line", but to report only. In discussion it was suggested that wardens would not be practicable; Mrs Wang said this was something the Town Council should be responsible for. It was agreed that this matter should be put to the Town Council, and that it should appear in the Minutes of the Meeting as the Chairman's suggestion.

Mrs Wang said she had written to the Traffic Manager at St Albans regarding the condition of the Ladies' WC, and also to Mr Shooter suggesting a "Best Kept Station Competition" on the Bedford-St Pancras line.

Mrs Wang reported that she had received a letter from the County Council, enclosing 50 leaflets on Code for Horses. As yet there had been no response to her request for leaflets on Shop Fronts, Conservation Areas, Street Furniture.

Mrs Wang reported that although the Tennis Club had replanted some trees it was unsatisfactory. Also, more mature deciduous trees had been felled. She said she would contact the Tennis Club again. MRS WANG

The Environment Group had recently met and brought members up to date with events; no new issues had been proposed, but individual members will report to the District Council office matters of concern as they noted them.

Mrs Wang explained that the recent article in "The Review", headed "Watchdogs on alert in battle over signboards" had not been initiated by her, and she explained the circumstances.

b. Plans

Planning applications were commented on as follows:

5/014A/86 The Old Bell, 177 Luton Road - 10 signs and 2 blinds. No details other than position - refers to other drawings not available for scrutiny. The Society regrets this lack of information.



- 5/0416/86 102 Southdown Road - Change of use of ground floor room to shop, construction of new shop front and entrance. Removal of existing tiling and ground floor bow window and replacing with aluminium doorway and shopfront would completely alter the pleasant appearance and proportions of the building, unacceptable in a conservation area.
- 5/0418/86 The Engineer Public House, St John's Road - Proposed extension: conservatory, beer store and additional WC. The conservatory would be completely out of harmony with the present building. Nevertheless, it would add interest to what is a very plain building in outward design and appearance.
- 5/024A/86 Nationwide Building Society, 107 Southdown Road - New fascia and Hanging Sign. Present fascia is sympathetic; proposal to have 2 styles of lettering and colouring is out of keeping with the rest of the building and contrary to instructions of District Council's guide "Shopfronts and Advertisements". The hanging sign would be too large in relation to the office frontage.
- 5/020A/86 The Harpenden Arms, High Street - exterior signage (illuminated and non-illuminated). It was considered that 35 lights in total was excessive and that the number of signs is also unacceptable.

c. Upper Lea Valley Group

Mr Bush referred to the exclusion clause on the Theft Insurance Policy and agreed to follow this up.

H BUSH

LITTER BINS

Mr Jennings had suggested that the Committee use the Southdown area as a "guinea pig area" for the installation of 2 or 3 bins.

Mr Truslove agreed to look into the types of bins and their location and pass the information to the Secretary who would write to the District Council. Mr Haslar reported on his recent survey of litter bins in Harpenden.

E TRUSLOVE  
H BUSH

1986 AWARD

Mr Haslar reported that he would chase up BR regarding notification of colour, and that Paul Usher had done the plaque design.

W HASLAR

ENVIRONMENTAL EXHIBITION (6-9 May, Adult Education Centre)

The Secretary reported that he had obtained a poster for the exhibition from the Civic Trust.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was reported that the District Council had turned down the Town Council's application for the Public Hall car park to be open to the public during the day.

ACTION

It was reported that the cost of the Russell Avenue multi-storey car park in St Albans was much cheaper than the Amenbury car park.

It was reported that traffic would be a major problem in connection with the expansion of Luton Airport.

It was reported that the rent of the History Society of Harpenden Hall was being reviewed. Although a grant might be available it would be subject to a proposed lease on restrictive users clause. It was agreed that Mr Bush would follow up the position.

H BUSH

The Committee took note of a report from the Treasurer that the total funds for the first 3 months was £2337.

Mr Truslove suggested that Groups reported at alternate meetings, or gave a brief report in writing for association with the agenda. It was suggested that Mr Jennings would support the latter, and group leaders and Committee members were asked to take this away and think about it. Mrs Wang expressed her views on this.

Mr Bush suggested to the Committee that full details of discussions did not have to be minuted: the essential thing was to minute the decisions. Mr Bush agreed to provide specimen minutes; an action column was also suggested.

H BUSH

It was reported that there was no representative for the "Nicky Line" Committee. *but the Society will be asked to participate*

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was fixed for Monday, 19 May 1986.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held on Monday 21st April 1986 at Harpenden Hall  
at 7.45 p.m.

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Reports from Groups:-      Environmental  
                                     Southdown  
                                     Transport  
                                     Commons and Greens  
                                     Plans  
                                     ULVG
5. The Redbourn Triangle - Mr Matthews to report further.
6. Litter bins.
7. 1986 Award - details of Plaque and presentation.
8. Environment Exhibition.
9. Any other business.
10. Date of next meeting.

In view of the fact that our Minutes Secretary cannot attend this meeting, any information for the minutes that can conveniently be submitted in writing will be much appreciated.

## THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on Monday, 24th March, 1986.

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Present: Mr. E.H. Truslove, in the Chair  
Mr. H.J. Bush, Mrs. M.J. Clitherow, Mr. W.G. Haslar,  
Miss I.M. Leek, Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Mr. A. Mellody,  
Mrs. P. Mowbray, Miss J. Thurston, Mr. M.F. Vincent,  
Mrs. M. Waldren, Mrs. L. Wang, Mr. C. Ward.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. K. Jennings and Mr. E. Ward.

### 104. CHAIRMAN

In the absence of Mr. K. Jennings, Mr. E.H. Truslove took the Chair.

### 105. COMMITTEE

The death of Dr. Joan Moore, which had been reported at the A.G.M., was recorded with great regret.

The Chairman welcomed the two new committee members:

Miss Joan Thurston  
Mr. Colin Ward

Miss Joan Thurston agreed to take up the position of Chairman of the Commons and Greens Group when free from her other public duties. Representation of the Society on the Commons and Greens Committee of the Town Council would be required. The Secretary was asked to inform Mr. Slater of the situation.

No nominations had been received for the position of Events Secretary, Mr. E. Truslove agreed to carry on pro tem but was unable to continue the provision of refreshments at public meetings.

Miss I.M. Leek agreed to take on the duties of Press Officer.

### 106. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 24th February, 1986 were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendments:

Minute 89(c)- add "At the Society's request British Rail had  
....."

add "..... letter of the 26th August, 1985 has been received. We cannot take this matter further."

add "..... re 26 Hollybush Lane were lost.

Mr. Truslove said that he had litter bin catalogues available for committee members to borrow. Mr. Truslove had also discovered a supplier of deterrent paving stones.

f. District Council Minutes (Minute 94)

It was agreed that the Society's traffic policy should be a subject for the Transport Group.

The Secretary said that he was in the process of obtaining a copy of the Government White Paper "Lifting the Burden" re planning controls.

g. Bus Shelters (Minute 98)

The Town Council would be put in touch with Mr. Haslar so that settlement may be arranged.

h. Poster Blanks (Minute 99)

Mr. Truslove said that 500 blanks, approximately five years' supply, had been printed.

108. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

a. Plans

Planning applications were commented on as follows:-

0194/

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 5/0242/86 | 28 Crabtree Lane - erection of detached house and garage by J. Arnott. Although taking account of Society criticism of an earlier application, frontage too narrow.  |
| 5/0242/86 |  |
| 5/0249/86 | 6 Leyton Road - use of premises as shop and restaurant with demonstration area over by C. Berendt. Lack of information re demonstration area. No objection provided no loss of residential use and no nuisance caused. |
| 5/009A/86 | National Children's Home signboards. Likely to detract from amenities of residential area.   |
| 5/012A/86 | 14 Church Green - Rolands Carpets Ltd., fascia and shop front. Fascia lettering has been criticised. Colour not indicated on drawing.  |
| 5/0202/86 |  |
| 5/0221/86 | 11 Willoughby Road - erection of detached house. Views of neighbours should be sought.   |

Following the request to the District Council for consideration of the extension of the Harpenden Town Centre Map to cover central Southdown, the Director of Works and Technical Services had replied that, while Southdown is defined in the adopted St. Albans District Plan as a neighbourhood centre, the Local Plans Team would shortly be commencing a comprehensive review of the District Plan for public consultation in Spring 1987 and he would appreciate receiving, from the Society, some initial ideas about policies and proposals for Southdown before the Review is formulated.

It was noted that the Society's current concern was for the overall land use of the Grove Road cottage area. However, it was agreed that the Southdown Group and the Plans Group should join forces to present a joint report for presentation to the District Council.

Mrs. Wang said that it had been reported at the Town Council meeting that the plans for the Harpenden Motors site might not proceed due to possible action by the brewers for loss of light.

Mr. Haslar queried the lack of provision in the Harpenden Motors site plans for improvement of the public toilets. Mrs. Wang said that the toilets were located outside the application site.

It was noted that following his resignation from the Committee, Mr. Holderness had left the Plans Group.

Mr. Matthews had written to thank Mr. Holderness for his services. The Secretary was asked to write to thank Mr. Holderness for his offer of continuing professional support. It was noted that Mr. Vincent had joined the Plans Group.

b. Commons and Greens

It was noted that Lady Bowden had received a letter from a member of the public complaining of parking on the common in inclement weather. He had spoken to Mrs. Wang on the telephone and Mrs. Wang had referred him to the Town Council.

c. Transport

Mr. Haslar reported that he had informed the Area Manager, British Rail that the Society had given its 1986 award to the renovated Station buildings. The BR architect would notify the Society of the background colour required for the plaque. An award presentation date to coincide with the opening of the renovated car park would be arranged for early June.

Other matters discussed with BR were:-

shrub beds - location  
Station Masters house - state of rubbish on  
the embankment behind the new Jarvis building.

Following the letter to the District Council requesting information on plans for the development of the open space off Waldegrave Park, arrangements had been made for contact to be made by the Landscape Officer.

Following the letter to BR Property Board commenting on the air of desolation at Station House a reply had been received to the effect that BR had not abandoned the idea of an office development. However, there was a problem in providing adequate car parking space for staff. Mrs. Wang had replied that this did not explain the insensitive manner in which the shrubs had been hacked back. If BR staff were not available to tidy the site could the Society be given permission to burn branches on site and generally tidy up? In addition, having noticed an open first floor window, BR was asked if the building was under security surveillance.

Following no improvement in the cleanliness of the ladies WC at the BR station, Mrs. Wang said she had approached the local supervisor on the telephone and followed up this with a letter.

Mrs. Wang also asked BR Property Board if anything could be done to clear up the accumulation of litter on the sloping bank fronting the offices occupied by Bovis.

Mrs. Wang said that she had written to the County Council to ask their Countryside Managers to help to improve the standards of practice of horse owners and riders in order to stop environmental damage.

It was noted that the recent survey had highlighted an increase in free-standing pavement advertisement boards since the last survey was made.

The management of the privately-owned common land at Green Lawns was being investigated. It was understood that enforcement action was being taken against the unauthorised pole sign.

Mrs. Wang asked for unauthorised parking on the common by lorries and coaches to be reported to the Town Council.

It was noted that a considerable number of sycamore saplings had been felled at Bamville Wood.

A Group meeting would be held on Wednesday, 16th April, 1986.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held at Harpenden Hall on Monday 24th March 1986  
at 7.45 p.m.

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Reports from Groups :-
  - Plans
  - Commons and Greens
  - Transport
  - Environmental
  - Southdown
  - ULVG
5. Environment Exhibitions
  - F/E Centre
  - Methodist Hall
6. Presentation of Award to B.R.
7. Leasy Bridge footpath.
8. Redbourn "Triangle"
9. Any other business
10. Date of next meeting



## THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee held on Monday, 24th February, 1986.

Present: Mr. K. Jennings, in the Chair  
Mr. H.J. Bush, Mrs. M.J. Clitherow, Mr. W.G. Haslar, Miss I.M. Leek  
Mr. J.A. Holderness, Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Mr. A. Mellody,  
Mr. I.D.G. McNicoll, Mr. E.H. Truslove, Mr. M.F. Vincent,  
Mrs. M. Waldren, Mrs. L. Wang.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. S. Bastow, Mrs. P. Mowbray and Dr. J. Moore.

### 88. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 20th January, 1986 were approved as a true record, subject to the following amendment:

Minute 83(d) - "graffiti on station footbridge" to read "graffiti on Carlton Road footbridge".

Para 2 - "..... replacement planting in Amenbury Lane by the tennis courts had been carried out in Spring 1985 with inadequate protection. Only seven out of one hundred had survived and we are urging replanting".

### 89. MATTERS ARISING

#### a. Harpenden Town Sign (Minute 81)

The missing plaque had been found in the possession of the Town Council in very poor condition. The plaque referred to the Society by its previous name, The Harpenden and District Local Preservation Society. It was agreed that the Society would ask Paul Usher to design a new plaque using the up-to-date name of the Society.

It was suggested that the Town Council's permission be sought for the presentation of the original plaque to the Local History Society.

#### b. Harpenden Town Centre Inset Map (Minute 82)

Mr. Truslove reported that he had been given the name of a contact in the County Council by the District Council in his search for a speaker on the subject of traffic.

#### c. Environment 1 (Minute 83(d)) *re Nicky Way*

The Society had been asked by the Town Council to urge the District Council to set up a Management team.

British Rail had installed a new litter bin in the ladies' WC and two more were ready for installation. This would make a total of fourteen bins on the Station.

90. REPORTS FROM GROUPSa. Plans

Planning applications were commented on as follows:

- 5/0008/86 32 Marquis Lane - erection of two detached houses
- 5/0045/86 Adj 6 Manland Avenue - erection of one detached house and garage by Cornish
- 5/1144/85 2 High Street - erection of car show rooms with ancillary offices on first floor, two flats on second floor. CONSERVATION AREA.
- 5/0115/86 Adj 14 Moreton End Lane and R/O 23 Moreton Avenue - erection of detached dwelling for Mrs. G.M. Jackson. CONSERVATION AREA.
- 5/0159/86 The Plovers - erection of two cottages and provision of garage and utility room. CONSERVATION AREA.
- 5/0141/86 Thompsons Close - ventilating duct.
- 5/0165/86 The Harpenden Arms - alterations to elevations and erection of canopy.

It was reported that a request had been addressed to the Head of Conservation and Design, County Planning Department, County Council for consideration of the inclusion of additional buildings as 'locally listed' in the appendix to the Harpenden Town Centre Map.

b. Commons and Greens

A report was received on the Town Council Commons and Greens Committee meeting held on the 18th December, 1985:

Hay Crop - The Chairman of the Committee had sought the advice of the County's Countryside Management Group and they have offered to prepare a large scale map of the uses of the Common and to offer regular advice and help with long-term management. They agree that fertilizer should not be used and suggested that the County Council might be able to help dispose of the hay crop.

Southdown Ponds - After a meeting with District Council Officers following the clearing of the pond it has been accepted that, with more frequent clearance, a projected twice yearly clearing of the roadside drains, the suggestion for an interceptor pipe should be left in abeyance for the time being.

Nicky Line - The Clerk had written yet again reminding that access to the main railway line had still not been closed.

93. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND THE DISTRICT COUNCIL

A report from Mr. Matthews re. the meeting with Mr. Lerner, Assistant Director, Works and Technical Services, District Council, was attached to the Agenda for this meeting.

94. DISTRICT COUNCIL MINUTES

An extract from the Minutes of the District Council Sub-Committee Meetings as presented to the District Council Meeting of the 11th December, 1985 was attached to the Agenda for this meeting.

Attention was drawn to Item No. 7 and the advisability of the Society having its own traffic policy.

95. CIVIC TRUST CONFERENCE

It was agreed that Mr. Haslar might attend the conference on Thursday, 17th April at the London Business School on the subject of "Freight Transport - A Policy for the Environment" at a cost of £15.

96. ERIC MORECAMBE MEMORIAL TRUST

The Society had been notified that an Honours Board in the Public Hall had been considered more practical than the affixing of names to the backs of seats.

97. CHANNEL 4 TV

Details of the Environmental programme were circulated.

98. BUS SHELTERS

It was noted that £136.22 was outstanding from the Council.

99. POSTER BLANKS

Arrangements had been made for these to be printed following the choice of ink colour.

100. ACCOUNTS

The Income and Expenditure Account for the year was distributed.

It was agreed that the Treasurer's recommendation that the subscription remain unchanged be recommended to the Annual General Meeting.

101. SOCIETY NEWS SHEET

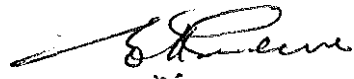
Mrs. Wang drew the Committee's attention to the need for this document to be up-dated.

102. REDBOURN

It was reported that there had been press reports of a mini-report by the District Council on an area of land to the east of Redbourne which may affect Harpenden. When the bypass was built the Inspector had said that there should be a detailed investigation of the future of this land. The deadline for public comment had passed and it was not usual for the Society to comment on matters falling into other Society's areas. It was agreed that the matter should be raised with The Redbourne Society.

103. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was arranged for the 10th March, 1986.  
Later amended to 24th March 1986.

  
24-3-86.

**HARPENDEN SOCIETY AND UPPER LEA VALLEY GROUP**  
**Analysis of Income and Expenditure for 1985**

1984 £		1985 £
2380.59	Balance in hand 31 December	1710.28
<u>2018.18</u>	less Opening Balance	<u>2380.59</u>
362.41 =====	(Excess) of Expenditure over Income	(670.31) =====
<u><b>INCOME</b></u>		
1362.18	Subscriptions and Donations	1304.30
120.42	Interest received	162.13
(11.13)	Functions account (loss)	(28.78)
<u>22.16</u>	Sundry	<u>4.01</u>
<u>1493.63</u>	Total Income	<u>1441.66</u>
<u><b>EXPENDITURE</b></u>		
48.50	Subscriptions to other Societies	51.00
99.43	Hire of accomodation for public meetings	154.53
317.54	Office expenses (postage, telephone etc)	322.58
390.81	Printing, Advertising	261.78
	ULVG - Expenses 169.34	
105.51	less Income 180.67	(11.33)
61.77	Photography and Display Equipment	220.86
27.50	Local History Society, use of rooms	28.50
35.00	Insurance	36.66
	Society Award Plaque	58.37
	Eric Morecambe Memorial Trust	300.00
	Repair of Town Sign	300.00
12.16	Bus Shelter Repairs	136.22
	Plaques for ULVG	220.80
<u>33.00</u>	Other	<u>32.00</u>
<u>1131.22</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>2111.97</u>
362.41 =====	(Excess) of Expenditure over Income	(670.31) =====
<u><b>FUNCTIONS ACCOUNT</b></u>		
(21.82)	Wine & Cheese Evening	
	AGM Refreshments	(12.00)
<u>10.69</u>	Other receipts less costs	<u>(16.78)</u>
(11.13) =====		(28.78) =====

The above Analysis and Account of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 1985 are in accordance with the books and vouchers of the Society and Upper Lea Valley Group and give a correct view of the excess of expenditure over income.

Chartered Accountant  
Honorary Auditor  
10 February 1986

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held at Harpenden Hall on Monday 24th February  
1986 at 7.45 p.m.

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting.
3. Matters arising.
4. Reports from Groups :-
  - Plans
  - Commons and Greens
  - Transport
  - Environmental
  - Southdown
  - UIVG
5. The A.G.M. - Committee, elections, arrangements, etc.
- ( 6. Keep Britain Tidy Campaign, litter bins, etc. Mr. Ward to report.
7. Report from Mr. Matthews re meeting with Mr. Lerner. See attached.
8. Buffet lunch at County Hall. Mr. Ward to report.
9. Extract from District Council minutes attached. Comments?
10. Any other business.
11. Date of next meeting.

## THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

### Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Monday, 20th January, 1986

Present :- Mr. K. Jennings in the Chair  
Mr. H. J. Bush, Mrs. M. J. M. Clitherow, Mr. W. G. Haslar,  
Mr. L. J. G. Matthews, Mrs. P. Mowbray, Mr. E. H. Truslove,  
Mr. M. F. Vincent, Mrs. M. Waldren, Mrs. L. Wang, Mr. E. Ward

Apologies for absence received from Dr. F. J. Moore.

80. MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting of 11th December were approved as a true record, with apologies to Mrs. Wang for omission of her name from those present.

81. MATTERS ARISING - meeting of 18th November.

Planning Applications (Minute 67(a)) A meeting had taken place between Mr. Lerner of the District Council, Mrs. Wang and Mr. Matthews. Although the discussion covered much ground, in connection with the presentation of the Society's responses to applications, there were many matters not solved. Mr. Matthews to prepare for circulation a full report of the meeting.

County Structure Plan (Minute 67(e)) The Secretary had written to Mr. Peter Lilley, M.P., and had received a reply thanking us for our support in preserving the Green Belt.

Advertising Walkabout (Minute 68(d)) A copy of Mrs. Wang's report had been sent to the St. Albans Civic Society.

Harpenden Town Sign The Secretary had written to the Town Clerk regarding the missing Harpenden Society plaque. No reply. Mr. Ward to follow up.

82. MATTERS ARISING - meeting of 11th December.

Town Centre Map and Inset Plan The Committee expressed thanks to Mr. Matthews, Mrs. Wang and Mr. Hasler for their efforts in producing the Society's comments on this, and requested the Secretary to write to Mrs. Morwood, thanking her for the typing.

In response to the Secretary's covering letter, the District Council had sent us two copies of a leaflet containing a guide to the listing of buildings. These were passed to Mr. Matthews and Mrs. Wang.

Regarding traffic volume on the A1081, the District Council replied that there had not been a feasibility study carried out with regard to re-routing, and that further study is necessary. A question which was not asked was whether there has been any estimate of future traffic volume. Mr. Truslove is anxious to arrange a future meeting on the general subject of traffic, and it was suggested that he approaches the District Council with a view to obtaining a speaker, and also makes reference to some estimate of future traffic.

83. REPORTS FROM GROUPS

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

5/1520/85 Detached house and garage adj. 35, Marquis Lane.  
Less objection than to the original plan, as the

building work is reduced, but it would still be obtrusive from the Lea area and detrimental to nearby property.

- 5/0884/85 Erection of two dwellings adj. 7, Eastmoor Park. This also is an amended plan, but refusal still recommended as it would mean building on land regarded as amenity space.
- 5/1470/85 Removal of two lime trees, Beed Court, Hillside Road. Whilst these are very close to the buildings, their loss would be regretted. Suggest trimming under expert advice.
- 5/1502/85 Dutch blind, 1, Thompsons Close. Opposed to High gloss blinds.
- 5/1533/85 Ogglesby's Garage, three Portakabins. These would reduce parking space on site. Objection is raised to the use of temporary buildings, but must depend on the period for which they are intended to stand.
- 5/092A/85 Abbey National Building Society, High Street, alterations and additions to signs. We oppose the red-on-red background. (illuminated).
- ( 5/1615/85 7, Manland Avenue, conversion of house into three flats. This plan is supported, but we urge provision of more than four parking spaces.
- 5/1616/85 Erection of two detached houses and garages adj. 7, Manland Avenue. No objection.
- 5/1144/85 Showrooms and offices on 1st floor, flats on 2nd floor, 2, High Street. An amended plan which still provides a roof line too high. Trees not accurately plotted, and one will have to be lopped. Plan still not acceptable.
- 5/1666/85 Detached house and garage, 71, Grove Road. Whilst no objection to the design of the house, it has been moved forward on the site, thus breaking the building line of the other houses. Two trees would be lost. Refusal recommended.
- ( 5/1649/85 Change of use of 1st floor for business/professional purposes, 6, Vaughan Road. This is included in the Harpenden Inset Map, and change of use is contrary to Policy Area 9 of the Written Statement.
- 5/095A/85 Illuminated fascia and projecting sign, 68, High Street. We object to the colour scheme which is out of keeping on a Listed Building in a conservation area.
- 5/1709/85 Two detached houses and garages, R/O 54-56 Grove Road. This is over-development of the site. Refusal recommended.

APP/B1930/

- A/85/039559 Appeal - we support District Council's refusal to a plan to build sixteen houses and garages, Lower Luton Road. The land is within the Green Belt, and the proposed development cannot be described as meeting the exceptional circumstances stated in District Plan. We are anxious that a precedent is not created.

Station House - Application for renewal of planning permission, but not clear what this really involves. The matter to be investigated further in the light of the fact that this is a building of historic interest within the Inset Map.



APP/B1930/A/85/038026

E/85/801077 Appeals by Jarvis (Harpenden)Ltd re demolition of 1 and 3 Shakespeare Road and erection of 11 houses on site. Refusal of applications supported. The 11 houses represent an over-dense development, and there is no evidence that the existing houses could not be refurbished and retained.

(b) Commons and Greens No report.

(c) Transport Mr. Haslar reported that the car park in the Waldegrave Park amenity area is in bad condition, inadequate and, at present, flooded. The Bowls Club is organising a petition to District Council. It was recalled that some years ago the Society was promised by the District Council that there would be an overall plan for landscaping etc. Nothing yet received. Mrs. Wang to follow up.

Also reported that one bus shelter in the High Street lost its roof in the recent gales, but this is currently being replaced.

(d) Environmental Mrs. Wang reported an invitation by the "Green Party" to participate in a "Green Fair" to be held in St. Albans. Decided to take no action. Mrs. Wang also reported contacts from the public and Members re the following :-

Bramble overhanging the footpath by St. George's School.  
Bad hedge cutting and felled tree on N.C.H. land, Luton Road.  
The likely lopping or felling of the copper beech tree,  
Douglas Road.

Lack of access to Nicky Way on east side of A1081.

(Suggested that the Society requests the setting up of a Management Team).

Concern by resident of Aplins Close re application by Ogglesby's for pre-fab building. \*

Graffiti on ~~station~~ footbridge. *Curtin Rd*

Concern by Grove Road resident re plan for No. 71 \*

\* See Plans Group Report

Grove School - dumping of hedge cuttings.

All the above queries were dealt with.

Mrs. Wang reported that planting had been carried out by the footpath to the Day Centre, but it is not known by whom. No start had yet been made at Overstone Road/Gilpin Green. Replacement planting in Amenbury Lane by tennis courts had been carried out ~~but~~ *but is* inadequate. *Only 7 out of 100 survived in 1985 with.*

Jarvis Builders have started landscaping the Police Station forecourt.

A request has been sent out to B.R. for three additional litter bins. A letter has been sent to District Council (Mr. Lerner) re 4, Arden Grove and 26, Hollybush Lane. Some questions were included in our responses to plans applications but these have not been answered.

It was reported that the Society's tree on the High Street concourse has been vandalised with paint spray. Mr. Ward is seeking expert advice as to how best to deal with this. Mr. Ward also reported the formation of the District Council's Environmental Improvement Group and the Society's involvement. He stated that at the next meeting he would report fully on the matter of litter bins and the Keep Britain Tidy campaign. There will be a meeting of this Group a few days hence.

- (e) SOUTHDOWN The fronting of the industrial area, southdown Road, is now something of an eyesore. Mr. Truslove to investigate and take the matter up.
- (f) U.L.V.G. The traditional New Year's Day work party was very enjoyable, and the party also watched the launching of the artificial ducks on the river. The Secretary reported that, once again, the H.Q. had been burgled, and tools to the approximate value of £68 were stolen. Insurance cover had been obtained by U.L.V.G from B.T.C.V., but it was found that there is an exclusion of £100 and therefore no claim can be made. The Secretary suggested, and it was agreed, that an enquiry be made to ascertain what extra premium would be required to remove, or at least reduce, this exclusion. Meanwhile, the Secretary would study the list of items stolen and discuss the matter with Heather Catterfeld. The Committee expressed a sympathetic view towards reimbursement.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Jack Haggard, for some years the Committee's U.L.V.G. representative, would be unable to attend any work parties for some time, following hospitalisation. Agreed that minutes and agendas be sent to Mrs. Catterfeld.

84. ENVIRONMENT EXHIBITION 1986

The Secretary reported seven acceptances of our invitation to participate. ) (Please note that one more has arrived since the meeting). Three refusals and three groups have not replied. It was felt that we have enough support to run the exhibition; but doubts were expressed about the possible poor attendance by the public to the Public Hall on a Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Truslove to enquire whether we could hire the High Street Methodist Church Hall and, if possible, on days when more people would be around.

85. MEMBERSHIP - 1985 Report

661 subscriptions paid, of which around 75% are family memberships. 15 members moved away, resigned etc., and there were 15 new recruits. 36 subscriptions were unpaid, and therefore membership has decreased by this latter figure. It is hoped that the exhibition (plus a display in either the Library or the Further Education Centre) would assist recruiting.

86. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Annual General Meeting The Secretary drew attention to the Special Resolution as set out in the January Newsletter (see also Minute 78 of 11/12/85) and, in anticipation that this will be passed, requested all Officers and Committee Members to advise him prior to the next meeting whether or not they agree to stand for re-election.
- (b) History Society The Secretary reported advice from the History Society -
- (i) that the calendar behind the door should be used for booking meetings,
  - (ii) that we should, in future, avoid Wednesday evenings, and
  - (iii) that the History Society is facing a probable increase in their rent this year. It was agreed in principle that we assist in this, and we await notification of the amount of the increase.
- (c) The Treasurer presented a draft unaudited copy of the accounts for 1985.

87. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday, 24th February, 1986

Items lifted from minutes of District Council Sub-Committees presented to the District Council meeting of 11th December 1985.

1. A question was raised regarding the prosecution of the Developers for building infringement re the removal of the timber frame of Wellington House. In reply it was confirmed that the Planning Committee must act consistently and not create a precedent. Despite the excellent job done to the house, the removal of the timbers was in fact an infringement.

2. A question was raised regarding the harsh treatment of the trees in Rothamsted Ave. and Salisbury Av. The reply was that the Dept. has much work of this nature to do and it has to be spread over the year. The trees do not appear to have suffered.

3. Attention was drawn to the Council's Environmental Improvement Schemes for which funds had been budgeted. It was noted that Harpenden (inter alia) had benefitted from these schemes.

4. Planning Controls. Attention drawn to the Government White Paper "Lifting the Burden" and relevant DOE Circulars. Copies had been passed to Parish Councils. This is designed to loosen the criteria for development control, and ease the restrictions on conditions for planning permission. (Secretary's note :- I have asked for copies.)

5. Attention drawn to the new system of Building Control from 11/11/85. This introduces a new method and format. This can be either submission of plans via the local authority or supervision by approved inspectors. Members expressed concern about ending the statutory requirement to submit plans in full. Director Works & Tech. Services submitted a report on methods of ensuring close working links between the District Council's Development and Building Control Section and the Planning Committee.

6. The St. Albans/Harpenden cycle path is being re-surfaced and when this is complete a traffic survey will be made.

7. Members expressed concern again about parking in Carlton and Stewart Roads. Director Works & Tech. Services stated that a general review of parking in Harpenden will be carried out during the current year.

8. The Landscape and Countryside Officer requested early retirement from 1/12/85. His assistant is promoted to the position and the position of assistant is deleted.



The Society's Responses to Registered Planning Applications -

Note of Meeting on 21st November, 1985

Mrs Lorna Wang and myself met Mr. Peter Lerner, Assistant Director, Works & Technical Services, District Council, for a discussion on this subject. It was based on matters included in my letters of 6th and 15th November. It was a friendly meeting, although both sides put their points fairly bluntly. I think that Mr. Lerner was reasonably receptive where he thought the District Council could help.

We said that on a number of occasions, although letters were sent in good time, no mention of our comments appeared in the <sup>planning</sup> Sub Committee's agendas. He put the point that if we could confine comments to one application per sheet it would ensure that the comments would reach the right file - and quickly. Perhaps if we used a proforma for the purpose, this would simplify the process for both. We said sometimes 4 to 6 items required comment in one week. To write these on separate sheets would be very expensive - especially as we produce photo copies. He said there was no objection to a single letter being cut up and pieces pasted on a set of proformas - our copies could still be one sheet. The suggestion is worth thinking about.

We complained that the distribution and availability of manuscript addenda to Plans North agendas was haphazard - e.g. not enough copies or not distributed to the public. Unfortunately Mr. Fagin who handles that side is not in Mr. Lerner's department, and he has no authority over this aspect of the proceedings.

Copies of written details accompanying planning application rarely accompanied the plans available at Harpenden Hall, so that sometimes it was far from clear what was intended. He seemed to think the Council were complying with requirements if such applications were made available only in St. Albans, and we should study them at the main office.

We again complained about the quality of plans.

The question of retrospective applications for signs, new shop fronts, etc. was raised. He said this was often due to ignorance. However, it was not an offence to do work without an application, but only if an enforcement order were then issued and not complied with. We remain concerned about the general situation.

Mrs. Wang was also very concerned about lack of details or inaccuracies of landscaping in conservation areas. He said the conditions attaching to permissions always covered these. In fact, planting and landscaping requirements did not come within the scope of public consultation, nor did finishes such as bricks; these were left to officers. We stated that there was often no record of decisions on these matters for reference by the public.

If decisions were left to be decided by Chairman and Vice-chairman, this was only done if there were no objections.

We reiterated our dissatisfaction with the procedure dealing with lopping, topping or felling of protected trees, either covered by TPOs or within a conservation area.

The only way the public can check whether cutting a protected tree is being undertaken with official permission is by phoning the District Council's Landscape Department. We feel this is a cumbersome and time consuming procedure. There should be a record accessible to the public for reference of proposed work on a protected tree - as trees make an important contribution to the locality, and are enjoyed by many. This information is not available at present in written form.

Leslie Matthews.

19 January 1986

UNAUDITED

HARPENDEN SOCIETY AND UPPER LEA VALLEY GROUP  
Analysis of Income and Expenditure for 1985

1984		1985
£		£
2380.59	Balance in hand 31 December	1710.28
2018.18	less Opening Balance	2380.59
362.41	Excess of Expenditure over Income	-670.31
	INCOME	
1362.18	Subscriptions and Donations	1301.30
120.42	Interest received	162.13
-11.13	Functions account (loss)	-28.78
22.16	Sundry	7.01
1493.63	Total Income	1441.66
	EXPENDITURE	
48.50	Subscriptions to other Societies	51.00
99.43	Hire of accomodation for public meetings	154.53
317.54	Office expenses (postage, telephone etc)	322.58
390.81	Printing, Advertising	261.78
	ULVG - Expenses 169.34	
105.51	less Income 180.67	-11.33
61.77	Photography and Display Equipment	220.86
27.50	Local History Society, use of rooms	28.50
35.00	Insurance	36.66
.00	Society Award Plaque	58.37
	Eric Morecambe Memorial Trust	300.00
	Repair of Town Sign	300.00
12.16	Bus Shelter Repairs	136.22
	Plaques for ULVG	220.80
33.00	Other	32.00
1131.22	Total Expenditure	2111.97
362.41	Excess of Expenditure over Income	-670.31
	FUNCTIONS ACCOUNT	
£		£
-21.82	Wine & Cheese Evening	.00
	AGM Refreshments	-12.00
10.69	Other receipts less costs	-16.78
-11.13		-28.78

I.D.G. McNicoll  
Treasurer

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Committee Meeting to be held on Monday 20th January 1986 at Harpenden  
Hall at 7.45 p.m.

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of meeting of 11th December 1985.
3. Matters arising from the minutes of 18th November meeting.
4. Matters arising from the minutes of 11th December meeting.
5. Reports from Groups :-
  - Plans
  - Commons and Greens
  - Transport
  - Environmental
  - Southdown
  - ULVG
6. Environment Exhibition 1986.
7. Membership Report for 1985.
8. Any other Business.
9. Date of next meeting.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee held on Wednesday 11th December 1985

Present :- Mr. K. Jennings in the Chair.  
Mr. H.J. Bush, Mrs M.J.M. Clitherow, Mr. L Matthews, Dr. F.J. Moore  
Mr. G. Haslar, Mrs P. Mowbray, Mr. I.D. McNicoll, Mr. E Truslove,  
Mr. E. Ward, Mrs M. Waldren. *Mrs. L. Wang*

Apologies for absence received from Mr. S. Bastow and Miss I.M. Leek.

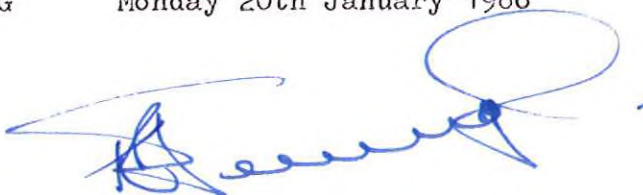
76. MINUTES The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 1985 were approved as a true record subject to the following :-  
Item 67 (e) 2nd line. Insert "County" before "Committee"  
Item 68 (c) Commons and Greens. In line 4 of 2nd para delete "unanimous Town Council" On line 5 insert after Common" "Members of the Town Council agreed."  
Item 68 (d) Environmental. The penultimate line to read "Mrs Wang read her report on the walkabout with District Officers concerned with advertising."  
Item 68 (f) ULVG. 2nd para amend "Morris" to "Maurice"  
Item 70 In the heading amend "TRUST" to "TOWN"

77. HARPENDEN TOWN CENTRE PLAN AND INSRT MAP

Following meetings between Mr. Matthews, Mrs Wang and Mr. Haslar, a draft of the Society's comments and suggestions had previously been circulated to Committee members. This was introduced at this meeting by Mr. Matthews and was studied and discussed. Certain adjustments were agreed, and a copy of the amended and final statement is attached to these minutes. This is to be forwarded to the District Council. The Secretary was requested to ask the District Council :-  
1. Whether there had been a feasibility study or traffic census dealing with the traffic problem on the A1081.  
2. What is the correct procedure for having a building designated as listed.

78. ANY OTHER BUSINESS After discussion it was agreed that at the forthcoming AGM there would be put forward a Special Resolution to delete from the Constitution the "3-year Rule" for Committee members and instead to have Committee members elected annually and eligible for re-election annually. The necessary explanation and formal notice to be included in the January newsletter.  
It was also suggested that at a future Committee meeting a study of the Constitution be made in order to determine whether there are any other items in it that need alteration in the light of present conditions.

79. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 20th January 1986





# The Harpenden Society

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

14th December 1985

The Director of Works and Technical Services, For attention Mrs A. Davies  
St. Albans District Council,  
41 Upper Lattimore Road,  
St. Albans,  
AL1 3TZ.

Dear Mrs. Davies,

Harpenden Town Centre Plan and Inset Map.

Our Committee has studied the consultation document for the above, and I am now able to send you the Society's response.

We are in agreement with all the matters set out in the document with the exception of those items shown on the attached sheets, for which we have added our comments and suggestions. We hope that you will find these helpful.

In addition, there were two questions raised by the members of the Committee :-

1. You will see on the attached sheets that we are requesting that certain buildings, not at present classified as "listed", should be so classified in the future. What is the correct procedure for having a building declared listed ?
2. On Page 13 of the consultation document reference is made to the main source of traffic congestion - the traffic volume on the A1081 - and it is stated that there is no feasible means of re-routing this. May we ask whether a feasibility study or traffic census has been carried out ?

Please let me know if you have any query regarding any of our comments.

Yours sincerely,

H.J. Bush,  
Hon. Secretary.



# HARPENDEN TOWN CENTRE INSET MAP

## REFERENCE

## WRITTEN STATEMENT PROPOSAL

## HARPENDEN SOCIETY PREFERENCE/COMMENT

<p><u>General:</u>    <u>Policy 9 (Page 9)</u>  <u>Shopping</u>  <u>Loss of Retail Floorspace</u></p>	<p>13-50 High Street and  1 - 3 Church Green to be  secondary shopping frontages.</p>	<p>To be primary shopping frontages.</p>
<p><u>Specific Activities</u>  <u>Transportation Policy 15 (Page 13)</u>  <u>Traffic Management (ii)</u></p>	<p>One-way traffic system along Victoria Road (North bound) and Vaughan Road (south west bound).</p>	<p>Not supported:    existing two-way helps to keep local traffic from High Street and aids access to car parks, Library, F.E. Centre etc.  Danger to pedestrians at lower end of Vaughan Road.</p>
<p><u>Policy 16 (Page 13)</u>  Pedestrians 1)</p>	<p>Prohibition of vehicular traffic in access road (south of Harpenden Motors), High Street and Leyton Road.</p>	<p>Not necessary if traffic control system introduced at Station Road/High Street junction.</p>
<p>2)</p>	<p>Prohibition of vehicular traffic in road across Church Green.</p>	<p>Not supported:    helps flow of local traffic and access to car parks.    Prefer prohibition on parking with one way movement north-south.</p>
<p>Pedestrianisation with access for service vehicles, disabled, cycles.</p>	<p>1.    Lower High Street between Vaughan Road and Station Road.   3.    Leyton Road between Church Green and Leyton Green.</p>	<p>Agreed.    Widen pavement and deal with drainage of rainwater problem.   Impracticable because of:-    need for movement of local traffic away from High Street;    access by large vehicles to Waitrose, not always early in morning.</p>

## REFERENCE

## WRITTEN STATEMENT PROPOSAL

## HARPENDEN SOCIETY PREFERENCE/COMMENT

Parking: Policy 19 (Page 15)  
On-site Parking Requirements and  
Commuted Car Parking Payments  
Public Car Park Pricing

Important to maximise use of public car parks to reduce on-street parking in residential areas: pricing of public car parks to encourage short stay.

Supported: would be helpful if payment is by the hour - say 10p.  
 Suggest the system used in W.G.C.

Policy Areas

Policy Area 2 (Page 26)  
(High Street, North West)

Policy 2

Proportion of office and other non-retail services in the frontage not to exceed 40%

40% sounds high. Why not 30% as proposed elsewhere?

Other projects

Seek to improve environment of important corner comprising Old Cock P.H., 52-56 High Street and Church Green. Feasibility of paving and landscaping the area will be investigated.

Supported, but not clear what exactly is intended. Could a sketch please be supplied.

Policy Area 3 (Page 29)  
(Church Green, Leyton Road North,  
High Street South-West)

Policies

- Other Projects
1. Closure of roadway through Church Green; provide footpath and landscape consistent with remainder of Green.
  2. Enhance roadway of north side Church Green by appropriate soft and hard landscaping.
  4. Pave Leyton Road from junction with Church Green to junction with Leyton Green (by Wellington House). Access for service vehicles.  
 Pedestrian/Cyclist priority.
  7. Consideration of future of public toilets near Harpenden Motors.

Closure not supported; helps local traffic flow; prefer no parking, and one-way North/South.

Clarification of what is intended required.

Not practicable.

Agreed to retain, preferably in a new building development.

## REFERENCE

## WRITTEN STATEMENT PROPOSAL

## HARPENDEN SOCIETY PREFERENCE/COMMENT

Harpenden Society Proposals	<p>8. Ban public parking on East Side Leyton Road outside 8A-10.</p> <p>9. Close link road Leyton Road-High Street i.e. N. of Barclays Bank, to vehicular traffic.</p>	<p>Parking now allowed at both ends causes unnecessary difficulties.</p> <p>Parking tends to be selfish: traffic entering High Street causes problems so close to the Pelican crossing.</p>
Justification	<p>2. Provide opportunities for small scale commercial development in some upper floors.</p>	<p>We do not consider there should be such opportunities.</p>
<p><u>Policy Area 4 (Page 33)</u> (Leyton Green, Amenbury Lane, Leyton Road South)</p>		
Policies	<p>2. High Density Residential. Redevelopment will be encouraged, particularly if suited to the needs of the elderly.</p> <p>3. Office development will be resisted unless to provide replacement offices for existing users at 9 &amp; 11 Leyton Road as part of a redevelopment scheme.</p>	<p>High density hardly seems appropriate here: it ought to be described as "small unit development".</p> <p>There seems no good reason for losing 9 and 11 Leyton Road which is an attractive building.</p>
Harpenden Society Suggestion	<p>5. Seek extension of Amenbury Lane Public Car Park onto portion of land at rear of Inn on the Green.</p>	<p>Additional car parking space essential for relieving on-street parking - it could be short-stay only.</p>
Other Projects	<p>3. Removal of on-street parking on West side of Leyton Road (South).</p>	<p>This is only feasible if at least the same number of parking spaces are made available to the rear: along this stretch there are 2 doctors surgeries and Inn on the Green, as well as nearby Sports Centre, which all attract a lot of short-term parking. However, rationalisation of car parking in this area would be helpful.</p>

Policy Area 5 (Page 37)

(22-29 Leyton Road,  
1- 5 St. Albans Road)

## Site Allocations

There are contradictions over proposals for policy sub-areas 5A, 5B, 5F where there are currently industrial, commercial and residential activities as well as a public house and a listed building; e.g. in 5A proposed fire station site - if abandoned, suggests elderly residential development, but residential or small workshops for 5B; further, 5F is industrial now, suggest residential if relocation possible.  
We think all 3 areas should clearly be residential.

## Supplementary Site Specific Guidance

Sports Centre and Indoor Swimming Pool  
- access from Leyton Road.

Suggest access should be from Amenbury Lane.

Policy Area 6 (Page 41)

(Harpenden Lodge)

More detailed study would be welcomed.

Policy Area 7 (Page 44)

(High Street, North East  
Nos. 37-73)

Other Projects 2. Closure of accesses to High Street  
(in front of Nos. 61-71):  
landscape these areas.

Not clear whether this refers to both vehicles and pedestrians.  
Access to pedestrian crossing must be preserved.  
Closure of access to 61 only feasible if other arrangements for access to site from Sun Lane are made.

3. Paving of area 51-71 High Street to form pedestrianised area. Access only for service vehicles.

We think pedestrianised area should be restricted to 61-71.

## Harpenden Society Proposal

4. Allow parking one side only 51-59.

To aid traffic flow.

Policy Area 9 (Page 51)

(Lower High Street 1-15),  
Station Road, Victoria Road,  
Vaughan Road South)

Policy sub-area 9B not shown on plans. Support proposal to make Station Road (north side) a primary shopping frontage.

## REFERENCE

## WRITTEN STATEMENT PROPOSAL

## HARPENDEN SOCIETY PREFERENCE/COMMENT

Justification      Seek to improve problems of congestion  
in Station Road.

Perhaps these could be eased by a bus stopping bay  
outside Harding Parade and restrict parking other  
side.

Harpenden Society suggestion      Junction Station Road/Victoria Road.

Problems of this junction require consideration:  
perhaps a mini-roundabout.

Policy Area 10 (Page 54)  
(Arden Grove, Harpenden Station,  
Southdown Road)

Harpenden Society suggestions  
Other Projects

1. Consideration ought to be given to egress from  
old Station Goods car park into Station Road  
during evening rush hour, coupled perhaps with  
egress from Carlton Road (just excluded from  
Inset Plan area) by phased traffic lights or  
other means.
2. Rationalisation of car parking behind Public  
Hall.
3. Improve appearance of car park behind Harpenden  
Hall by removing pre-fab. garage building and  
levelling.

Add to locally listed buildings:

Station buildings and small ~~Industrial~~ <sup>COMMERCIAL</sup> units in  
Station Approach; Station House; 78-84 and  
92-102 High Street; terrace of cottages 1-3  
Victoria Road; some buildings in Station Road.