

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held
at the Day Centre, James Marshall House on
Monday, 20th November 1989.

Present: Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Acting Chairman
Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow
Mr. M. Copas
Mr. E. Knight
Miss J. Thurston
Mr. M. Vincent
Mrs. B. Suitters
Mr. R. Bardner
Dr. A. Sutton
Mr. I. McNicoll
In Attendance: Mr. K.P. Jennings
Mrs. L. Wang.

Apologies were received from Lady Bawden, Mr. E. Ward, Mr. A. Simms,
Mrs. M. Waldren and Mr. R. Margereson.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting held on 17th October 1989 were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendment:

Page 2. Transport para. 7, "Stephenson" to read "Stevenson".

3. REPORTS

a. Commons & Greens.

Miss Thurston reported that the RSPB tree is planted. The hole was dug and the stake and ties provided by the Town Council.

Mrs. Wang asked if anyone knew of the whereabouts of the Harpenden Society plaque which was on the vandalised seat on the concourse and also said that she had noticed that many sycamores in Harpenden and the maple on the concourse seem to have a disease. Miss Thurston said that she would look into both these matters.

b. Southdown

Mrs Clitherow said that the tree in the car park which was known to be in bad condition has apparently been removed. It is not desirable to replace it.

c. Transport

Dr. Sutton apologised for the lack of a written report.

He said that he had heard from the Manager of British Rail, Network South East, Northern region stating that the resurfacing of the western approach road will now be dealt with separately from the western car park and therefore work on it may start soon. There will be a new waiting room on Platform 1, and the entrance to the western car park is to be made safer. The manager said also that he would arrange for fares to be displayed if space allows.

With reference to the proposed Harpenden by-pass Dr. Sutton said that he has taken photos of the countryside between Gibraltar Farm and the A5 and has visited Hunting Aerofilms and seen air-photos of the area which are available at a price. It was suggested by members of the committee that such photos may be available from County Hall or HMSO, and Dr. Sutton will look into this.

Dr. Sutton has been in contact with Mrs. Pat Rosen, Secretary of the Redbourn Association and they have a tape about the village of Bridge in Kent and the building of a by-pass there which he will borrow in order to play it to the Transport group. There is also a video on the Redbourn by-pass and an exhibition of papers relevant to the by-pass now on display at Redbourn Library.

Also in reference to the Station Dr. Sutton has heard from the Secretary of London Regional Passengers Committee. They deal with general matters after exchanges with BR have failed to settle things.

d. Environment

Mrs. Wang said that she had been with Leslie Scowen and Heather Catterfeld to meet Mrs. MacCabe who is responsible for rights of way at the District Council, and they talked about local rights of way. Mrs. MacCabe has since written to Mrs. Wang to say that the Nicky Line cannot be given definitive status because it is ^{combined} ~~neither~~ footpath ~~or~~ cycleway, which the committee knew already.

e. Upper Lea Valley Group

Mr. Jennings asked if the Plans group had commented on the application by Automagic, Coldharbour Lane and was told that they have.

Mrs. Wang said that the ULVG do not get copies of planning applications but liaise with her about these.

f. Plans

Mr. Jennings asked about application No. 5/89/1966 and whether planning permission is needed for private satellite dishes and also queried whether they have to be white. Apparently permission is not needed if they are less than 90 cm in diameter. But no-one knows about the colour.

Mr. Jennings asked Mr. Matthews to confirm that application No. 5/89/2052A applied to Pinney's garage, Station Road and was told that this was correct. Mrs. Wang said that she has applied for a TPO on a tree that is close to the neon sign and that she fears may be cut down for this reason.

Mrs. Wang said that she had just come from the Plans North Meeting and was concerned that as, under the new system, the majority of applications are delegated to Council staff when they are considered to be non-contraversial, ~~and~~ therefore they are not discussed at Plans North and there is no way of finding out the results of the applications which have been commented on by the Plans group. Mr. Vincent will write to the Chief Planning Officer to ask what are the criteria for delegating decisions and what means can be taken to let the Committee know the decisions.

4. DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW

Mr. Matthews has received a letter from Mr. Hughes, Assistant Director (Policy & Design) at the District Council asking to have a meeting with Committee representatives in January to discuss the District Plan Review.

There is to be an exhibition about it in the Library on 7-9th December, and an information pack and maps are available and will be purchased by Mr. Matthews.

The plan needs much consideration and there is not much time for general discussion and Mr. Knight proposed that it should be considered first by the Plans and Transport groups jointly and the Chairmen will report to the next Committee Meeting.

5. EVENTS

Mr. Bardner said that he has obtained a licence for the November 30th meeting. Mrs. Clitherow will prepare the punch and Mr. Bardnew will organise mince pies.

There are still no speakers for January 16th and February 14th. The AGM is on March 13th.

6. PUBLICITY

Mr. Matthews produced the new publicity leaflets which will be held by the Secretary.

Mrs. Waldren asked that it be announced that the deadline for the next Newsletter is December 3rd. It is hoped to include a notice about the District Plan Review and also nomination forms for the Award and Environment Certificates.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Matthews said that Mrs. Waldren had told him that she wants to give up her job as Editor of the Newsletter next year. Mrs. Wang expressed thanks to Mrs. Waldren for the excellent work that she has done in producing such an interesting and well presented Newsletter and this was endorsed by the whole Committee.

Mr. Matthews announced that Mrs. Wang is to resign her Vice-Presidency at the end of the year and does not wish to return to the Committee. On behalf of the Committee Mr. Matthews expressed our regrets and thanked Mrs. Wang for all the good work that she has done for many years. Happily she will stay on the Plans Group.

Mr. Matthews announced that Mr. Gordon Rowe has agreed to be Deputy Membership Secretary.

Mr. Copas asked if anything can be done about the litter from Cashpoints at Banks and Building Societies. It was felt that little can be done and some banks have been approached already. However it was agreed that Mrs. Suitters should write to the Chairman of Abbey National, as one of the worst offenders in Harpenden, to ask their policy about litter, and mention the lack of provision for litter outside their branch.

Mr. Matthews said that he had received a letter from Mr. Cotton, Vice-Chairman of the Local History Society asking for information about the history of the Harpenden Society. Mrs. Suitters will look through the secretarial records for anything relevant. It was pointed out that our photographic records are already stored at the Local History Society premises.

Mr. McNicoll asked if we should contribute this year to the Local History Society and a sum of £10 was suggested and agreed upon.

Mrs. Wang said that there was a very good response to the collection Sunday on the 19th. ^{Nov}the RNLi had a 10 ton container which was completely filled with newspapers.

8. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 10th January 1990.

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THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee
held at the Day Centre, James Marshall House on
Tuesday, 17th October 1989.

Present: Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Acting Chairman,
Mr. M. Vincent,
Miss J. Thurston
Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow
Dr. A. Sutton
Mr. M. Copas
Mrs. B. Suitters
In attendance: Lady M. Bawden
Mrs. L. Wang
Mr. K.P. Jennings
Mr. E. Ward

Apologies were received from Mr. A. Simms, Mr. E. Knight,
Mr. R. Bardner, Mrs. M. Waldren and Mr. R. Margereson.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting held on 20th September 1989 were
approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

Page 2. c. Plans. paragraph 2, "Town" to read "District" and
"cannot" to read "would not".

Page 3. c. Plans. paragraph 2, "protestion" to read "protection",
4. EVENTS. paragraph 3, "3792" to read "7392".

3. REPORTS

a. Commons and Greens

Miss Thurston reported that some more of the larches beside the
Southdown ponds are dying but there are still fitter ones which
hopefully will survive.

In response to a query Miss Thurston said that nothing further
has been heard about the proposed play area on the Common.

b. Southdown

There was some discussion about putting reflectors or white
paint on the bridge in Crabtree Lane to make it safer. Lady
Bawden felt this might be used by proposed developers in the
area as a point in their favour, although it would not make
the sight lines any better. It was decided that Mrs. Clitherow
should write to the District Council about it, with copies to
the Road Safety Committee of the District Council and to Mrs. Mills
who is on this committee.

c. Plans

Mr. Jennings asked what is the figure of Cars/building in
development planning and Mr. Matthews said that he understood
it to be 1.4/1. Mr. Jennings suggested that this is now in-
adequate, but perhaps can be modified when the district plan is
reviewed.

d. Transport

Dr. Sutton said that a pedestrian crossing has been requested in Westfield Road near the school there.

The existing crossing of the A1081 near Douglas Road is to be made into a Pelican crossing.

The Bus stops in Station Road are to be: South side, between Arden Grove and the Post Office, and North side, near Unwins.

Keep Clear signs are now painted at the Redbourne Lane/A1081 crossroads instead of having a box junction.

40mph restrictions are to be increased on the Lower Luton Road towards Wheathampstead.

British Rail will not repair the Station Approach roadway until a decision has been reached about the placing of the boundary wall.

Dr. Sutton said that he has been given a detailed map of Rothamsted by Mr. Stephenson, which shows the extent of Rothamsted and how much could be affected by the proposed by-pass.

Dr. Sutton has offered to represent the Society on the Road Safety Advisory Committee of the District Council. He will also liaise with Mr. Meldrum of the Town Council.

Mrs. Wang suggested that the group should be called Transport and Highways to indicate the full range of its interests but the Committee decided to retain the old title.

e. Environment

Mrs. Wang reported that Dr. Alan Williams, who has done the survey of insects at Batford Springs, says that it has proved rather disappointing with not many insects. However, a student will continue the survey as his project and will give proposals for the management of the area. Dr. Williams was more excited about the meadow at the rear of Pinneys and this area is inter-dependent with Batford Springs and any development of the meadow would have a detrimental effect on the environment of the whole area. The Upper Lea Valley Group are clearing the water cress beds at Batford Springs which should help to improve insect life.

Mrs. Wang reported that she will shortly be meeting the Rights of Way Officer of the District Council to talk about the foot-paths that are still not on the definitive map.

4. EVENTS

There are still no speakers booked for the January and February meetings and various suggestions were made. Perhaps a local developer might be asked to give his views, or someone might give the views of pedestrians, though this subject might be better for an afternoon meeting.

Mrs. Wang reported that arrangements for the Harpenden Now event are well in hand. Posters will shortly be out about the next stage. Entry forms will be ready by 1st November.

Clarks Cameras have agreed to give 4 35mm Compact Cameras as prizes and local shops have indicated that they will stock the postcards when they are ready. Mrs. Wang suggested that the prizes should be given at the AGM in March and this was agreed.

5. PUBLICITY

Mr. Matthews said that the new publicity leaflets will be ready soon.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Wang suggested that the Society should contribute to the collection for Mr. Stanley Keasley that has been organised by Mrs. Skye. It was decided that £10 would be appropriate and Mrs. Suitters undertook to ask Mr. McNicoll to organise this donation.

Dr. Sutton said that County Highways Committee now have a Refuse Disposal Sub-Committee who are aspiring to collect recyclable materials.

On behalf of Mrs. Waldren Mr. Matthews reported that as a result of a request for help in the Newsletter there has been an offer from a gentleman to be Deputy Membership Secretary.

Mrs. Waldren had a request from the Headmistress of the Batford J.M.I. school for information about sources of the history of Harpenden and she was referred to the Local History Society.

Mr. Matthews quoted from a letter received from two members of the Society suggesting the possible purchase of the field, known as Jockey's Meadow, at the south west end of the Common, for possible incorporation with the Common. The Committee discussed this and came to the conclusion that this would not be a feasible project.

Miss Thurston said that at the recent AGM of the Redbourne Association a video of the building of the Redbourne By-pass had been shown. She wondered if this might be of interest to the Society in view of the proposed Harpenden By-pass.

Mr. Matthews reported that a letter had been received from the Save Britain's Heritage Group asking for support in their campaign to save some buildings in the City of London but it was felt by the Committee to be outside the purview of the Society.

7. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Monday 20th November 1989.

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THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held at

The Day Centre, James Marshall House
on Wednesday, 20th September 1989

Present: Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Acting Chairman
Miss J. Thurston
Mrs. M. Waldren
Mr. R. Bardner
Mr. A. Simms
Mr. E.A. Knight
Mr. M. Vincent
Dr. A. Sutton
Mr. I. McNicoll
Mrs. B. Suitters
In attendance: Mrs. L. Wang
Mr. K.P. Jennings
Mrs. S.R. Bush

Apologies were received from Mrs. J. Clitherow, Mr. E. Ward, Mr. R. Margereson and Lady Bawden.

Mr. Matthews opened the meeting by welcoming Mr. Knight, the new Committee member and Mrs. Stella Bush, the Membership Secretary.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd August were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

Page 2, c. Plans, paragraph 3, "Council" to read "Arborist" and "a young" to read "maturing".

Page 3, EVENTS, paragraph 1, "October 2nd" to read "October 10th"

3. REPORTS

a. Commons and Greens

Miss Thurston said that she has been in touch with the local RSPB group about the tree which they are to plant on the Common to commemorate the Centenary of the RSPB. It will be a *Prunus avium* and the position has been chosen. Mr. Simms took this opportunity to invite all members of the Society to the Tree Planting Ceremony to be held on 22nd November at 10.00 am. with coffee to follow in the Small Public Hall.

Miss Thurston said that she has marked the dead larches near the Southdown ponds, which are to come down. She said that they have been naturally replaced by a young ash and another larch nearby.

Mr. Jennings asked whether the Town Council are legally responsible for clearing up the results of dogs fouling the Common. Apparently the bye-law about this is permissive and need not be implemented. He said that he is pleased to know that notices are to be put up requesting the public to keep their dogs away from areas where children play.

Mr. Jennings asked about the proposed play area near the Baa-lamb trees, and whether the Town Council had expressed an opinion about this. It is to be discussed at the next Town Council Meeting. The Committee felt that in view of the fact that there are other play areas in Rothamsted Park and at Batford, etc. and the close vicinity of busy roads to that part of the Common, Miss Thurston should tell the Town Council that we feel a play area in that position is unnecessary and undesirable.

Mrs. I. Wang asked whether the Town Council have discussed the status of the Nicky Line and Miss Thurston replied that it is to be discussed in the future.

b. Southdown

In the absence of Mrs. Clitherow Miss Thurston reported that Mrs. Clitherow had received a complaint that litter bins in Southdown were not being emptied. Miss Thurston suggested that the matter should be kept under review as the bins had been emptied recently and perhaps would be emptied more regularly now that the holiday season was over.

Mr. Jennings asked about the conifer the the corner of the car park which seems to be dead and perhaps should be replaced. Miss Thurston's advice was that it is a bad place for a tree so no replacement should be made.

c. Plans

Mr. Matthews presented a supplementary report.

With regard to application No. 5/89/1591 Mr. Matthews said that the ~~Town Council~~ ^{District Council} cannot remove the conditions but will endeavour to enforce them.

With regard to the meeting about the Clarence Road development which Mr. Matthews attended on 7th September, he amplified the remarks that he had made in his report.

Mr. Matthews reported that the developers of the site in Milton Road have asked for permission to demolish two more houses and this has been refused by the District Council. The DC inspected the houses and found them sound and will require the developers to make them weatherproof.

Mrs. Lorna Wang said that an application is to be made for the Gibraltar Castle in Batford for change of use to a domestic residence and for a block of flats to be built. She fears that such a development would make a nearby footpath unuseable and asked that someone would keep an eye on this matter in her absence on holiday. She gave her detailed history of the footpath to Mr. Matthews.

Mrs. Wang said that the recent enforcement action taken in St. Albans against the removal of trees was a very good sign and she has been in touch with the Arborist to recommend that this happens in Harpenden too.

Mrs. Wang said that she understood that an exhibition about the Westminster Lodge development is to be held in Harpenden and wondered if the Society should respond but it was felt that this is not necessary.

Mrs. Wang said the St. Albans Civic Society is to hold a meeting on 16th November at St. Albans School to discuss the revised District Plan.

* Mr. Leslie Matthews said that he has received a letter from the District Council about Areas of Special Residential Character which includes Park Avenue, Sauncey Avenue, West Common, Grange Court Road and parts of Meadway. These are considered to be particularly attractive with a high degree of privacy due to the large plots and are very vulnerable to infilling and therefore it is proposed that they be provided with a high degree of environmental protection. The Society has been asked to comment on this in conjunction with the revised District plan when this is published.

d. Transport

Dr. Sutton apologised for late report which he presented at the meeting.

Dr. Sutton said that because the Society did not respond in time to the siting of the Pelican crossing in Station Road he has been investigating ways of getting access to the County Council reports. They are available in St. Albans Library and it was suggested that he write to the County Council to have them sent directly.

Dr. Sutton has found that it is proposed to have another Pelican crossing across Leyton Road near Waitrose. Box junction markings will be put at the Redbourne Lane/Walkers Road junction on the A1081 as a first stage in safety measures. The County Surveyor has said that mini-roundabouts will not help the safety of this junction and a longer term solution should be found to be in the 5 year programme.

Mr. McNicoll asked if the Station Road roundabout was felt to be successful and the general opinion of the Committee was that it is working well.

e. Environment

Mr. Simms amplified his remarks in his report. He suggested possibly organising clean-up groups.

Dr. Sutton offered to list the options for the by-pass to help to prepare statements of the environmental impacts of the different routes, although it is understood that the whole subject is still very nebulous.

Mr. Matthews suggested that the group look into the possibility of having litter bins in Westfield where there are none at present.

4. EVENTS

Mr. Bardner said that he still has no speakers for the January and February meetings and asked for suggestions.

He will contact Mr. Copas about the organisation of the October meeting.

Mrs. Wang reported that the tin collection is going well. We are getting more tins each month and people are bringing less steel tins. In 4 months we have collected the equivalent of 3792 tins.
7392.

Mrs. Wang said that newspapers and computer paper are also brought for the RNLI collection. She had hoped that Mencap would be able to organise the collection of magazines but they cannot do this, but Christian Aid have expressed an interest.

With regard to the Harpenden Now exhibition and competition Mrs. Wang has had good support from the Arts Club and the Photographic Society representatives. She was given authorisation by the Committee for printing copies of the application forms, and for meeting the increased cost of the Methodist Hall and reproducing the postcards. She said that the sub-committee felt that a prize should be given for the best photographs and she was given authorisation to seek sponsorship from Regency or Clarks. The sub-committee felt that there need be only one judge for the photographic competition and this Committee agreed that Eric Meadows be asked to do this.

Mrs. Wang said that the Photographic Society want to have a display of their photographs of Harpenden which would not be in the competition or for sale and this was agreed. The Arts Club will organise the sale of the art works.

The next meeting of the sub-committee is on 27th October.

5. PUBLICITY - NEW LEAFLET

It was agreed that Dr. Sutton would produce a master copy of the new leaflet and Mr. Matthews would organise the production of these.

Mrs. Bush said that she had discussed the proposition of having a life membership of the Society with the Treasurer and it was felt to be a good idea and should be discussed at the next AGM.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Bush reported that the total membership is increasing. There are now 262 individual members and 453 family members giving an estimated membership of 1168. There are 23 unpaid subscriptions.

On behalf of Mr. Ward Mrs. Suitters reported that the Golf Club have put 4 more litter bins on the Common and are hoping to get a sponsor to replace the wooden seat at the south end of the Common.

Mr. McNicoll asked if any recognition could be given to the BP garage on Luton Road, and other members said they would go to look at it.

Mr. Matthews said that in view of his position as Acting Chairman of the Committee he is to give up his chairmanship of the Plans Group and Mr. Vincent will take over at the end of October. Mr. Jennings recorded the thanks of the Committee for all the hard work done by Mr. Matthews for the Plans Group.

It was decided that a questionnaire be included in the next Newsletter to try to get more feed-back from members and to get more people on the groups.

Mrs. Wang asked if items for "Any other business" could be raised at the beginning of the meeting. It was felt that it would be better for any important matters to be included on the agenda.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING 17th October 1989. NB Change of date.

Agg member

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee

held at

The Day Centre, James Marshall House

on Wednesday, 23rd August 1989

Present: Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Vice-Chairman
Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow
Miss J. Thurston
Mr. A. Simms
Dr. A.L. Sutton
Mrs. B. Suitters
Mr. M. Vincent
Mr. I. McNicoll
In attendance: Mr. K.P. Jennings
Mrs. L. Wang

Apologies were received from Lady Bawden, Mr. R. Bardner, Mr. R. Margereson, Mr. T. Ward, and Mrs. M. Waldren.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting held on 19th July 1989 were approved as a correct record.

3. REPORTS

a. Commons and Greens

Dr. Sutton was thanked for his work around the memorial seat on the common. He commented that the corner was cleared by the Town Council soon after his work.

b. Southdown

Mrs. Clitherow wondered if the shrubs on the Green should be replaced. Miss Thurston remarked that they had been a litter trap and it was agreed that maybe grass would be better.

Mrs. Clitherow said that some people have problems when driving up Crabtree Lane in the dark because they cannot see the bridge clearly. It was suggested that reflectors or white paint on the bridge might help.

With regard to the Carpenters Arms car park Mrs. Clitherow has now seen a letter from the Brewery's solicitors saying that the car park, which is owned by the Brewery, cannot now be used by the public and that therefore the Council should remove their

notice, which says that the car park can be used by the public outside opening hours.

Mrs. Clitherow said that she had endeavoured to contact the District Council's officer for footpaths about the pedestrian access to the Gateway car park, but with no success.

c. Plans

Mr. Matthews said that Messrs. Jarvis have now appealed against the refusal of their application for 28 retirement homes at 47 Luton Road.

Mr. Vincent asked about Application No. 5/89/1397 and Mr. Matthews said that with the houses further back on the plot they will be nearer trees and may endanger them but he would not recommend refusal for this reason.

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Mrs. Wang said that to help her to respond to applications for tree work she has asked that the location of the trees be made clearer on the applications. She also asked the District Council if they would ask local people to water newly planted saplings in their areas, particularly in view of the present drought, but the Council does not feel this is necessary. She has recently been given a TPO on ~~a young~~ ^{new} ash at the rear of 1 Connaught Road.

Mrs. Wang said that the Trees and Woodland Officer is now Mr. R. Edwards.

d. Transport

Dr. Sutton passed round a plan showing the proposed situation of the new pelican crossing in the High Street.

Dr. Sutton said that a by-pass from Gibraltar Farm to the A5 had been suggested but this would probably not be acceptable.

Dr. Sutton said that the new timetable at the Station is still not very clear and he is continuing to pursue this matter with British Rail.

e. Environment

Mr. Simms said that he is in the process of organizing his group and they will be having a meeting soon.

Mr. Matthews suggested that the group might concentrate on certain projects as the work of the group covers so many subjects.

4. EVENTS

Mr. Matthews read out a letter from Mr. Bardner in which he said that Mr. Hackford, Chief Executive of St. Albans DC will speak to the Society on April 26th 1990. The speakers arranged for this year are :- Peter Symonds talking about the Bramingham Community Wood on October ^{10th} 2nd, Charles Dickinson on Cross Farm on November 2nd, and John Stevenson talking about Sir John Lawes, the history of Rothamsted and its links with Harpenden on 30th November.

Mr. Bardner will now look for speakers for the January and February meetings next year.

Mrs. Wang said that the can collection on 20th August had been very successful. Mr. Matthews had been there to help and the equivalent of 2,346 cans were collected. We have now collected approximately £53 for the HMWT in 3 months. More help was offered for the September collection.

Mrs. Wang said that she has approached Mencap to see if they would like to join in and be on site to collect something for recycling.

Mrs. Wang said that she has been helping Friends of the Earth (Harpenden Branch) to produce a recycling guide called Wasteline which will be available for reference in the Library and the CAB in the autumn. She suggested that the Society might like to contribute to the cost of producing this and it was agreed to contribute the sum of £5.

5. PUBLICITY

Dr. Sutton was thanked for the work that he has put in on the new leaflet and the second draft was approved with some minor alterations.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Matthews proposed that Mr. Edmund Knight be co-opted onto the Committee and this was seconded by Mr. Simms.

Mrs. Suitters said that she had spoken to Mrs. Catterfeld about the possibility of someone from the Upper Lea Valley Group being on our committee and Mrs. Catterfeld said that she would ask them. Mrs. Catterfeld said that she will produce a report for the Committee from time to time.

Mr. McNicoll asked about the weekly planning lists from the Council, how many do we get and who pays for them. Mr. Matthews thought that seven lists are received and some have been paid for by the Society and some by individuals. Mr. Matthews agreed to speak to the Council about their refusal to let the Society have

any free copies and to find out the exact payment they require. Mr. McNicoll said that he felt that the Society should pay for this very important part of the work of the Society.

Dr. Sutton asked what is the best way to find out about County Council proposals for roads and it was suggested that he asks the County Council and also contacts Mr. Squire or Mrs. Tarry. Mrs. Wang said that notices appear in the local papers but are hard to find.

Miss Thurston said that she has received the minutes of the Red-bourn Association and they are asking for maintenance work to be done on the Nicky line.

Mr. McNicoll asked if anything can be done about the gypsies camping on Kinsbourne Green Common but it was felt that this was a lost cause.

Mrs. Wang said that she has written again to the District Council about public rights of way and hopes for a meeting with them in October.

Mr. Jennings asked if the Town Council are responsible for clearing up dog faeces and can they do anything about this under the new legislation. He is concerned particularly about the area outside St. John's Church. Miss Thurston said that she would see if she could find out anything about this matter.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held at the Day Centre, James Marshall House, on Wednesday 20th September 1989.

L. J. MacRae

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee

held at

The Day Centre, James Marshall House

on Wednesday, 19th July 1989

Present: Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Vice-Chairman
Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow
Mrs. M.G. Waldren
Miss J. Thurston
Mr. A. Simms
Dr. A.L. Sutton
Mrs. B. Suitters
Mr. M. Vincent
Mr. I. McNicoll
In attendance: Mr. T. Ward
Mr. K.P. Jennings
Lady M. Bawden
Mrs. L. Wang

Apologies were received from Mr. M. Copas, Mr. R. Bardner, Mr. R. Margereson.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting held on 14th June 1989 were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

In the MINUTES referring to Page 3 of the previous report "a member of the Committee" to read "Mrs. Wang" and in addition at the end of the paragraph "Mrs. Wang was invited to return and presented her report".

3. MEETING OF COMMITTEE OFFICERS AND GROUP CHAIRMEN HELD ON 21st. JUNE.

There was discussion on how reports should be presented to the Committee and it was decided to experiment with the following method. The group chairmen will give written reports to the Secretary at least ten days before the Committee Meetings and these reports will be photocopied and circulated to all committee members with the minutes. Thus the reports need not be read out at the committee meeting and any points which committee members want to raise can be brought out at the meeting at the relevant time.

The meeting also discussed aspects of the group chairmen's work with the new group chairman.

4. REPORTS

a. Commons and Greens.

Mr. Jennings asked about paragraph 4 of the report, whether there was to be any car parking provision for the proposed picnic area and what were the views of the Golf Club. Mr. Ward said that there was to be no access for cars, and no additional parking outside. There is a litter bin already available which is emptied by the Town Council.

There was some discussion as to the advisability of having a notice board giving the Common By-laws at the proposed picnic area but it was felt that this is not necessary.

With reference to paragraph 3 of the report Lady Bawden remarked that there is a great improvement in the state of the ponds.

Mr. Ward pointed out that the spinney at the south end of the golf course which had been choked with briars was recently cleared by members of the golf club.

Miss Thurston pointed out that the hay area on the common was cut and not flailed, unfortunately.

b. Southdown

There was nothing to report this month.

c. Plans.

The report was accepted without comment.

d. Environment.

Mr. R. Margereson has had to leave Harpenden for 6 months and apologized for not being able to take up his duties as chairman of the environment group. Mr. A. Simms offered to act as chairman in his place and Mrs. Wang said that she would like to be a member of the group. Mr. Simms said that he would give a list of group members to the Secretary before the next committee meeting.

e. Transport.

With regard to paragraph 2 of his report Dr. Sutton suggested that he should write to the British Rail Director of London Region about the display of timetables.

Mrs. Wang asked if anything had been done about the dangerous road surface in Station Approach and Dr. Sutton said that this had been mentioned in a previous letter to British Rail.

With regard to paragraph 3 of his report Dr. Sutton said that he was continuing his work on this. At present the Society could not form any definite view but should continue to consult with all other interested parties.

f. Treasurer's 6 monthly Report.

The Treasurer pointed out that the report was more satisfactory than that of last year, largely due to increased subscriptions. He commended Mrs. Bush on the hard work that she has put in chasing up late payers.

It was decided not to contribute to the Council for Voluntary Service for St. Albans District.

5. EVENTS

Mr. Matthews said that he had heard from Mr. Bardner that speakers have been booked for all of this year's meetings.

Mr. Ward suggested that the new Chief Executive of St. Albans District Council might be asked to speak at one of the meetings next year.

Lady Bawden asked if we should have an afternoon meeting next year and it was felt that this would be desirable if possible.

Mrs. Wang said that the collection of aluminium tins for recycling was going well. There has been a lot of interest and so far we have made approximately £30 for the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust. People are encouraged to bring also their empty bottles and newspapers to Bowers Way car park on the third Sunday of each month and it is hoped that the Friends of the Earth might also be there to take stapled magazines which are not wanted by the RNLI.

Mrs. Wang said that the Friends of the Earth are hoping to produce a leaflet giving outlets for recycling rubbish.

Mrs. Wang said that the Harpenden Now committee is due to meet again in September and she will be able to give more details after then.

6. PUBLICITY.

The committee considered the proposed new leaflet as prepared by Dr. Sutton. Various amendments were suggested and Dr. Sutton will prepare a new draft for distribution with the minutes and consideration at the next meeting.

Mr. Matthews offered to look after publicity for the time being.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Mr. Matthews pointed out that new committee members are needed and asked if any of the present members know of people who could be co-opted onto the committee. It was suggested that this could be mentioned in the next newsletter together, possibly, with a questionnaire on what people are prepared to do to help the Society.

Lady Bawden asked about representation from the Upper Lea Valley Group which she feels is desirable. The Secretary will contact Mrs. Catterfeld to see if we can have an occasional report from the group and to invite them to send a representative to be on the committee.

Miss Thurston said that she has received the minutes of the General Meeting of the Redbourn Association and sent them a copy of our Newsletter.

The Treasurer said that, with Mrs. Bush he will consider the possibility of offering life membership subscriptions.

Mrs. Waldren said that the copy date for the next Newsletter will be in mid-September.

Mrs. Suitters will produce lists of group members as soon as these are complete.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next Committee Meeting will be held at the Day Centre, James Marshall House, on Wednesday 23rd August 1989 at 7.45 p.m.

R. J. Matthews

18-Jul-89

HARPENDEN SOCIETY

UNAUDITED ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR 6 MONTHS TO 30 JUNE

1988		1989
-----		-----
£		£
2229.80	Balance in hand 30 June	2678.10
1907.96	less Opening Balance	2092.27
-----		-----
321.84	Excess of Income over Expenditure	585.83
-----		-----
	INCOME	

944.05	Subscriptions	1156.05
	Mrs Labrun memorial donation	
	ULVG - Income	
	- less Expenses	
30.53	Interest Received	67.12
	Profit from 'Plants on the Common' booklets	
	Sundry	16.41
-----		-----
974.58	Total Income	1239.58
-----		-----
	EXPENDITURE	

70.48	Hall and room hire for Meetings	129.35
30.00	Subscriptions and donations to other Societies	15.00
304.23	Printing, Advertising	208.59
209.28	Office expenses (postage, telephone etc)	231.81
	Memorial Seats	
	ULVG Cairn and Waymark	
	Purchase of Southdown Litter Bins	
	Plaques and Fitting	69.00
30.00	Insurance	0.00
8.75	Other	0.00
-----		-----
652.74	Total Expenditure	653.75
-----		-----
321.84	Excess of Income over Expenditure	585.83
-----		-----

I D G McNicoll
Hon. Treasurer

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee

held at

The Day Centre, James Marshall House

on Wednesday, 14th June 1989

Present: Mr. L.J.G. Matthews, Vice-Chairman
Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow
Mrs. M.G. Waldren
Miss J. Thurston
Mr. R. Bardner
Dr. A.L. Sutton
Mrs. B. Suitters
In attendance: Councillor C.W. Curl
Mr. K.P. Jennings

The Meeting opened with Councillor C.W. Curl in the Chair.

Apologies were received from Mr. E. Ward, Lady M. Bawden, Mrs. L. Wang, Mr. M.F. Vincent, Mr. M. Copas, Prof. C.W. Miller, Mr. A. Simms.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting held on 17th May 1989 were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

Apologies to include Mr. M.F. Vincent.

Page 3. In place of "At this point the Chairman left the meeting and Mr. Matthews took over the chair." the record should read "Prior to the Environment Group report ~~a member of the Committee~~ Mrs. Wang. challenged the Chairman with regard to procedure, refused to accept the Chairman's ruling and then left the meeting. The Chairman then adjourned the meeting and left. The remaining members of the Committee proposed that the meeting be reconvened immediately with the Vice-Chairman in the chair, ~~and Mrs. Wang returned immediately~~ *was invited to return* *9 presented her report.*

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Curl asked that on the occasion that the Chairman had resigned would the Committee then appoint an Acting Chairman to serve during the remainder of the year. Mr. L.J.G. Matthews was proposed by Mr. R. Bardner and seconded by Miss J. Thurston and elected unanimously.

Thanks were expressed to Councillor Curl for his help.

Mr. Matthews then took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

4. REPORTS - FUTURE PROCEDURE

Mr. Matthews said that it had been felt that to make the committee meeting shorter the procedure of giving group reports should be changed.

Mr. Jennings suggested that the group chairmen should prepare written reports to be distributed prior to the meeting to all the committee members, and these reports should be prepared in consultation with the group members.

Lady Bawden pointed out in a letter that she had previously suggested that the group chairmen should get together and draw up terms of reference which could be adhered to when discussing group business.

It was decided that a meeting of group chairmen together with the Acting Chairman, the Secretary and hopefully, the Treasurer, would be held on Wednesday 21st. June at 23 Haddon Court.

5. PUBLICITY

No decision was made as to who should be in charge of publicity.

Mr. Matthews showed a sample of the new green poster for comparison with the white one. It was decided to use the green paper in future.

Mrs. Suitters passed round copies of a draft for a new publicity leaflet which had been prepared by Dr. Sutton. It was decided that copies should be sent to those members not present and the matter be discussed at the next meeting.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was announced that a letter from Prof. Miller resigning from the Committee had been received and his resignation was accepted by the committee with regret. He will be asked to continue his connections with the groups.

The Council for Voluntary Service for St. Albans District have asked for a small subscription of £5 as an affiliation fee, and it was decided to refer this to the Treasurer.

Miss Thurston said that she has written to the District Council about Hay Lane.

Dr. Sutton said that there has been a proposal from the County Council that a Pelican crossing be put in the High Street near

Church Green. He said that according to Mr. Kenny at County Hall the crossing would replace the existing islands opposite Church Green and further south near the new arcade of shops. It was suggested that he should write to the Council on behalf of the Committee giving our reasons for opposing this suggestion.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held at the Day Centre, James Marshall House, on Wednesday 19th July at 7.45 p.m.

R. J. G. Manton
Acting Chairman

any free copies and to find out the exact payment they require. Mr. McNicoll said that he felt that the Society should pay for this very important part of the work of the Society.

Dr. Sutton asked what is the best way to find out about County Council proposals for roads and it was suggested that he asks the County Council and also contacts Mr. Squire or Mrs. Tarry. Mrs. Wang said that notices appear in the local papers but are hard to find.

Miss Thurston said that she has received the minutes of the Red-bourn Association and they are asking for maintenance work to be done on the Nicky line.

Mr. McNicoll asked if anything can be done about the gypsies camping on Kinsbourne Green Common but it was felt that this was a lost cause.

Mrs. Wang said that she has written again to the District Council about public rights of way and hopes for a meeting with them in October.

Mr. Jennings asked if the Town Council are responsible for clearing up dog faeces and can they do anything about this under the new legislation. He is concerned particularly about the area outside St. John's Church. Miss Thurston said that she would see if she could find out anything about this matter.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held at the Day Centre, James Marshall House, on Wednesday 20th September 1989.

R. J. Marshall

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee

held at

The Day Centre, James Marshall House

on Wednesday, 17th May 1989

Present: Miss I.M. Leek, Chairman
Mr. L.J.G. Matthews
Mrs. B. Suitters
Mr. R. Bardner
Prof. C.W. Miller
Dr. A.L. Sutton
Miss J. Thurston
Mrs. M.G. Waldren
In attendance: Lady M. Bawden
Mr. K.P. Jennings
Mrs. L. Wang
Mr. E. Ward

Apologies were received from Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow, Mr. M. Copas, Mr. I. McNicoll, Mr. R. Margereson and Mr. A. Simms. *Mr. Vincent*

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th April were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

Apologies to include Mr. K.P. Jennings

REPORTS. Para.a 'hawthorn hedges and the rough,' to read 'hawthorn hedges, and the rough'.

REPORTS. Para.c 'many of the letters sent to the Plans North Sub-Committee' to read 'some letters sent to the DC Planning Office.

REPORTS. Para.d add 'for 1989' after 'all the railway footpaths\cycleways' and 'It was pointed out at the meeting' to read 'It was pointed out after the meeting'.

EXHIBITIONS. Para.b 'posters will be' to read 'posters had been'.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Para a 'The Harpenden Society poster was approved' to read 'The Harpenden Society's new A4 poster and format were approved'.

3. REPORTS.

a. Commons and Greens.

Miss Thurston reported that young gorse from Somerset has been planted on the golf course and its progress will be monitored.

She has arranged two walks during the summer (see Events) and Mrs. Wang will do the posters for these.

Miss Thurston was asked about laurels which have been planted in Hay Lane and she will investigate these, and write to the DC about Hay Lane in general.

b. Southdown.

Professor Miller reported in the absence of Mrs. Clitherow. He said that the group was largely concerned with the question of litter, and there had been some improvement, though letters to various bodies were often ignored. The Chairman expressed the appreciation of the Committee for all the efforts of the group in trying to improve the litter situation. It was pointed out that the access footpath to the Gateway car park is badly worn and this will be taken up with the appropriate authorities by Mrs. Clitherow.

Mr. Jennings drew the attention of the Committee to a confusing situation that had arisen concerning the Cravells Road\Grove Road car park. The car park is divided into two parts. The largest part is open to the general public at all times. The other small section is situated on land owned by the brewery with the Carpenter's Arms pub adjacent to it. The official notice at the entrance to this part of the car park indicates that this may be used by the general public outside licensing hours. A hand drawn chalk notice now obscures the official one and suggests that this part of the car park is for the use of pub customers only at all times. Could the Southdown group investigate and clarify the situation?

c. Plans

Mr. Matthews reported that during the previous 5 weeks there had been 49 applications on Harpenden of which 38 were for extensions etc. and the group had responded to 16.

He said that the Lydekker estate plans had been approved and the Milton Road appeal was then in progress.

Lady Bawden asked if there was any information about the Youth Centre in Vaughan Road.

Mrs. Wang pointed out that the work on the Kwik Fit garage had

gone ahead but apparently had retrospective permission, but the new fascia on the Willow Tree Restaurant had no planning permission. She said that she is concerned about trees in the conservation area which have been worked on without permission, and she has written to the DC about this.

d. Transport.

Dr. Sutton reported that he had inspected Harpenden Station and had met Mr. Adrian Jackson Robbins of the Association of Passenger Transport Users. He was given approval of a letter to be written to Mr. Robbins asking to be entered on the circulation list of the APTU News, and welcoming the restoration of services into St. Pancras, and also the bollards in the Eastern approach road. He also pointed out the disgraceful condition of the Western approach road and suggested widening the access to the Western car park. In addition he asked about the provision of a new waiting room in the station and supported APTU'S projected timetable display.

Dr. Sutton will attend the next APTU meeting on 6th June.

The Chairman suggested to Dr. Sutton that he contact Mr. Kemsey-Bourne the previous group leader, and that the matter of the bypass should be kept under consideration. A letter from Mr. Colling about the bypass was given to Dr. Sutton.

NB. - At this point the Chairman left the meeting and Mr. Matthews took over the chair. Prior to the Environment Group report a member of the Committee challenged the Chairman with regard to procedure, refused to accept the Chairman's ruling & then left the meeting. The Chairman then adjourned the meeting and left. The remaining members of the Committee proposed that the meeting be re-convened immediately with the Vice-Chairman in the Chair.

e. Environment

Mrs. Wang reported in the absence of Mr. Margereson. She said that at the Environment Exhibition in the Public Library 40 of the publicity leaflets had been taken. She was highly commended by the Committee for her hard work in producing a very successful exhibition.

Mrs. Wang suggested that for future Environment weeks the Society might consider combining a project with the upper Lea Valley Group and also possibly having an Environment Award for schools.

Mrs. Wang confirmed that everything is in hand for the start of the recycling campaign collection of tins in Bowers Way car park and asked again for help on June 18th.

Mrs. Wang is in correspondence with the County Council about the status of the Nicky Line footpath/cycleway which should have recognition as a public right of way, and also about illegal tipping on a field in Lower Luton Road on the

Harpenden\Wheathampstead border.

The entomological survey of Batford Springs is under way.

4. NICKY LINE.

Miss Thurston reported that the TC has now received the money for maintenance for 1989 and also a back payment for 1988. She has received from the DC their specifications for management of commons, parks and greens, which also includes the Nicky Line and she will comment on these.

5. NEWSLETTER

Mrs. Waldren asked for copy for the July Newsletter by the 14th June.

6. AWARDS.

a. Presentation of Award.

Members of the Committee are reminded that the presentation of the award to Mardall House will take place on Saturday 10th June and all are invited.

b. Letters of Commendation.

The letters of commendation were approved retrospectively.

7. HARPENDEN NOW EXHIBITION

Mrs. Wang said that the estimated cost would be £200-£230. After discussion of the suggestions placed before the Committee by the organising group, which includes representatives of Harpenden Art Club and Photographic Society it was agreed that:

1. No entry charge will be required of the public
2. There will be no fee for those submitting photoprints
3. Art work and photos will be limited to 3 per person, in each category
4. There will be a hanging fee of 50p per picture and a 10% commission from the sale of any of the art work.
5. Although the Committee had previously agreed to a panel of judges choosing the 3 photos best suited to capturing the atmosphere of Harpenden for reproducing as postcards, the organising group's suggestion that the public should be given the opportunity to vote for their favourite photo, to be reproduced as a fourth postcard, was agreed by the Committee.

8. EVENTS

- a. It was suggested that the summer meeting be delayed.

b. Summer walks.

Miss Thurston has arranged two walks on the common. The first on 7th June, to meet at the Three Horseshoes at 8.0 p.m., to see birds and plants, and the second on Saturday 1st July, to meet at the junction of Walkers Road and the A1081, to see butterflies and plants.

c. Autumn Meetings.

Mr. Bardner suggested that there should be a talk by Mr. Dickinson from Cross Farm in October followed at a later date by a visit to the farm. For November he suggests Peter Simmonds from Bramlingham Wood and for December a talk about Rothamsted in relation to Harpenden, possibly by Dr. John Stevenson.

Various suggestions were made for Mr. Bardner to follow up for next year's meetings.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Suitters read from a letter from Mrs. Mellody thanking the Society for the message of sympathy on the death of Mr. Tony Mellody and saying that £420 had been collected and sent to Cancer Research.

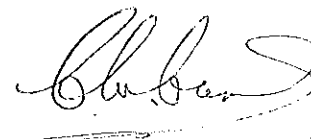
Lady Bawden said that her postponed talk to the Darby & Joan Club about the Society would now take place on 12th June.

Mr. Bardner passed round leaflets about the open Day at Rothamsted on 25th June.

Mrs. Wang suggested that there should be a meeting of group chairmen to clarify procedures, and also asked who was responsible for publicity.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held at the Day Centre, James Marshall House, on Wednesday 14th June at 7.45 p.m.


14/6/89

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee

held at

The Day Centre, James Marshall House

on Wednesday, 12th April 1989.

Present: Miss I.M. Leek, Chairman
Mr. L.J.G. Matthews
Miss J. Thurston
Mrs. M.G. Waldren
Mr. M.F. Vincent
Mr. R. Margereson
Mrs. B. Suitters
Mrs. M.J.M. Clitherow
Mr. M. Copas
Mr. R. Bardner
Prof. C.W. Miller
Dr. A.L. Sutton

In attendance: Mrs. L. Wang
Mr. E. Ward

Apologies were received from Mr. I. McNicoll
and Mr. A. Simms *K.P. Jennings*

The new Chairman, Miss I.M. Leek, opened the meeting by welcoming the new members of the Committee, Mr. M. Copas, Mr. R. Margereson and Dr. A. Sutton.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th March were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendment:

Minute No. 345 a. Awards 'Mardell' to read 'Mardall'

3 COMMITTEE - organisation for 1989-90

The Chairman said that she hoped that every committee member would have a job on the committee and that all should be members of one or the other of the groups.

Officers:	Chairman	Miss I.M. Leek
	Vice-Chairman	Mr. L.J.G. Matthews
	Hon. Secretary	Mrs. B. Suitters
	Hon. Treasurer	Mr. I.D.G. McNicoll

Mrs. M. Waldren said that she is willing to continue to produce the Newsletter.

Mr. R. Bardner and Mr. M. Copas offered to share responsibility for the Public Meetings with Mr. Bardner booking the speakers, venue, etc. and Mr. Copas managing the meetings.

Three groups will continue as before:-

Commons and Greens	Chairman	Miss J. Thurston
Southdown	Chairman	Mrs. J. Clitherow
Plans	Chairman	Mr. L. Matthews

The transport group will continue with Dr. Sutton as Chairman

A new environment group will be formed with Mr. R. Margereson as Chairman.

It was agreed that the leaders of the groups will continue to be referred to as Chairmen of the respective groups.

These Chairmen were asked to provide the secretary with lists of the members of their groups before the next committee meeting.

4. REPORTS

a. Commons and Greens

Miss Thurston reported that the long delayed visit to the Golf Club by Mr. Neil Willcox, Conservation Officer, Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust, took place on April 5th. The common was under snow but he made several recommendations - including allowing the hawthorn hedges, and the rough, where it adjoins woodland, to grow taller and wilder to encourage wildlife and that the heather be cut one year in four.

Work has started on refurbishing the Rovers football pitch.

The oak tree memorial to Dr. Joan Moore is growing tall and straight. The memorial seat has had the grass round it cut, but this needs to be done more often in the growing season. Mrs. Waldren and Dr. Sutton offered to help with this.

b. Southdown

Mrs. Clitherow reported that there seems to be an improvement in the rubbish situation in the Gateway car park.

She is still in correspondence with the DC about the footpath at the edge of the green.

c. Plans

The Chairman asked the opinion of the Committee on the present method of reporting plans in the minutes and it was agreed to continue as before.

Mr. Matthews reported that during the last two months there were 74 applications relating to Harpenden and the plans group responded to 20 of these.

He said that though the Society is in favour of the provision of sheltered housing in suitable locations it was felt that the proposed development at 5-7 Crabtree Lane would be an over-development and would not enhance the conservation area.

It was noticed that the latest application for the development of the Sun Lane site is reasonably close to the original layout though the proposed public garden is smaller than before and should be closer to the requirement of the District Plan.

The Society has no objection in principle to limited development on the land between Walkers and Cravells Roads but stress that the proposed buildings are too high and there will be too many vehicles debouching onto the roads which are already dangerous.

Mrs. Wang queried the provision of car parking for the proposed development of the Station House site.

She mentioned also the undesirable 'flying saucer' feature on the development in Hickling Way and said that she had met the owner of one of the cottages in Amenbury Lane and hoped that he would paint his window frames to be more in keeping with the rest of the row.

It was noticed that the Quick Fit development in the High Street is apparently going ahead without planning permission.

The proposed developers of 21 Park Avenue South have invited members of the Society to visit the garden.

With regard to complaints about notices on the Rothamsted Park gates, Mr. Ward is to investigate this matter.

Mrs. Wang said that ^{some} ~~many of the~~ letters sent to the ~~Plans North~~ ^{DC Planning Office} Sub-Committee of the DC by representatives of the Society are ignored and it was decided to write to the Chief Executive of the DC about this.

d. Nicky Line.

Miss Thurston reported that she had sent 30 copies of her letter about the Nicky Line to relevant parties and had received several replies and there had been reports in the local press. She represented the Society at a meeting at the Civic Hall on April 4th, at which a group was formed to be called the Railway Footpath/cycleway Management Group. Mr. Ring, Assistant Director, Operations, Leisure Department, St. Albans District Council has a small budget at his disposal for maintenance of all the railway footpaths/cycleways, and applications for money for specific works can be made directly to him. It was pointed out ^{at} the meeting that the ULVG was not represented although they are covered by the group and it was agreed that Mrs. Heather Catterfeld would be approached and asked to send a representative to the group. It was felt that nothing would be done to reverse the sale of land on either side of the Nicky line.

Miss Thurston agreed to continue to represent the Society at meetings of this group.

e. Newsletter

Mrs. Waldren announced that the next Newsletter will be ready for distribution by 13th April.

5. AWARDS

The award of a Certificate to the Methodist Church was approved retrospectively.

Letters of commendation have been sent to Mr. Dyke and Mr. Keasley and copies will be brought to the next committee meeting for approval.

No arrangement have been made yet for the Award presentation at Mardall House.

6. EXHIBITIONS

a. Environment Week.

All arrangements have been made by Mrs. Wang. The exhibition will be set up in the Public Library from 22nd-29th April. Mrs. Wang said that she would be grateful for help with transport and this was offered by Mr. Margereson and Dr. Sutton.

b. Harpenden Now.

Mrs. Wang said that the group concerned with this has met and the Methodist School Hall has been booked and posters ~~will be~~ *had been* distributed.

7. EVENTS

On 25th April there will be a joint meeting with the RSPB in the Small Public Hall.

a. Summer Meeting

Mr. Bardner will try to arrange a talk about the Link Farm for June.

b. Summer Walks

Miss Thurston will talk to Mrs. Bardner and Mr. Simms to see if she can arrange some walks.

8. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Miss Leek announced that on 31st March there were 704 memberships or 1148 members. Mrs. Bush will be invited to attend the next Committee Meeting.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. The Harpenden Society's ^{new A4} poster ^{and format.} was approved.

After some discussion it was decided to print 200 copies of the newly worded publicity leaflet for Environment Week and the leaflet would be considered further at the next meeting.

b. On behalf of the Treasurer Mrs. Suitters said that notepaper to the value of £45.90 had been purchased for the Society and the ULVG and Mr. P. Usher would arrange the printing of the headings.

c. Mrs. Suitters said that letters of thanks for the award of

Certificates had been received from Rev. John Walker of the Methodist Church and from New Traditions.

d. Mrs. Wang said that arrangements for the collection of tins for recycling are well in hand. The Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust will take the tins and the local Lifeboat Association will be present to collect newspapers. The collection point will be in the Bowers Way car park on the 3rd Sunday of each month, commencing on June 18th.

e. Mrs. Wang said that she had had no reply to her letters to the County Council about the map of definitive rights of way. She queried the lack of progress on the Station Waiting Rooms and this will be followed up by the Transport Group.

Mrs. Wang said that the matter of dumping in a field on the Harpenden/Wheathampstead border had not been dealt with satisfactorily and this will be investigated by the environment group.

10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS.

Committee Meetings will be held on the following Wednesdays at the Day Centre :-

May 17th,
June 14th
July 19th
August 23rd
September 20th
October 18th
November 15th.

NB. The August date has been changed from that suggested at the meeting.

Chick

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee

held at

23 Haddon Court, Harpenden

on Wednesday, 8th March, 1989

Present: Mr K.P. Jennings, Chairman
 Mr I.D.G. McNicoll
 Mrs B. Suitters
 Mrs M. Waldren
 Miss J.M. Thurston
 Mr L.J.G. Matthews
 Mrs M.J.M. Clitherow
 Mr A.G. Simms
 Mr K. Kemsey-Bourne
 Miss I.M. Leek

In Attendance: Mr E. Ward
 Lady Bawden
 Mrs L. Wang

Apologies were received from Messrs R. Bardner and M. Vincent.

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MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10th February, 1989 were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

Attendance	Add Mrs M.J.M. Clitherow
Minute No.336(d)(ii)	"operation" to read "options" "DC" to read "local press"
Minute No.336(e)	"visit to The Link Farm" to read "talk about The Link Farm"
Minute No.339	"new publications" to read "definitive map"

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MATTERS ARISING

a. Nicky Way (Minute 335(b)(vi))

Miss Thurston read a draft of a letter of protest to the DC and it was agreed that the letter be sent without amendment.

It was noted that copies of the letter would be sent to appropriate DC elected councillors and officers, the TC and ultimately Peter Lilley, depending upon the reply from the DC.

It was agreed that Miss Thurston should replace Mr Keith Jennings on the Management Committee.

b. Crabtree Lane Development (Minute 336(c))

Lady Bawden read the draft of her personal letter to the developers regarding co-operation in respect of the new plan for dwellings for senior citizens.

It was agreed that the reference in the letter to the interest of the Society was acceptable.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

a. Awards

Mr Ward reported that all nominations had been inspected and the following decisions reached:-

Society Award - Mardall House, Vaughan Road

Environment Certificate - A. Walton
New Traditions
Mr & Mrs Johnson/Cross Keys

It was agreed to institute a Letter of Commendation and to make awards to

S. Keasley
A. Dyke

b. Agenda

The Secretary circulated the agenda for the business meeting to be chaired by the President.

Arrangements were made for the remainder of the meeting to consist of a Members Forum encompassing Group Chairmen's Reports and members' questions.

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NEWSLETTER

Copy date - 28th March, 1989.

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EVENTS

Meeting dates booked
at the Public Hall

Tuesday, 10th October, 1989
Thursday, 2nd November, 1989
Thursday, 30th November, 1989

Meeting dates for which
no arrangements yet made

Tuesday, 16th January, 1990
Wednesday, 14th February, 1990
Tuesday, 13th March, 1990
Thursday, 26th April, 1990

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DONATION

It was agreed to donate the sum of £25 to Cancer Research
Fund in memory of Mr Tony Mellody.

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CHAIRMAN

The Committee passed a vote of thanks to Mr Keith Jennings,
the retiring Chairman, for the interest he had shown in the
Society and for the work he had undertaken over the past six
years.

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NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting was fixed for 7.45 p.m. on Wednesday,
12th April, 1989 at the Day Centre.

Jim Leek

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee

held at

20 Park Avenue South, Harpenden

on Friday, 10th February, 1989

Present: Mr K.P. Jennings, Chairman
Mr L.J.G. Matthews
Mr A.G. Simms
Miss J.M. Thurston
Mrs M. Waldren
Mrs A. Godfrey
Mrs B. Suitters
Mrs M. Vincent
Mr K. Kemsey-Bourne
Mr I.D.G. McNicoll
Miss I.M. Leek
Miss M.J.M. Clithow

In Attendance: Lady Bawden
Mrs L. Wang
Mr E. Ward

Apologies were received from Mr R. Bardner.

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MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11th January, 1989 were approved as a correct record.

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MATTERS ARISING

a. Minute 325(f)

Lady Bawden said that her engagement to speak had been cancelled following the fire at the Day Centre.

b. Transport (Minute 326(a))

Mr Kemsey-Bourne reported that he had conveyed the Society's views to the DC.

c. Recycling (Minute 331)

Mrs Godfrey said she understood from Mr Bardner that he had offered support to the Groundwork Trust who were preparing a similar publication.

GROUPSa. Southdown

Mrs Clitherow said:

- (i) Edge of green - the DC reply that the posts were correctly sited had not answered the Society's questions. A new enquiry had been made to ascertain what physical means they intended in accordance with their instructions to deter pedestrians.
- (ii) Supermarket - having written twice to no effect she had now addressed the managing director of Gateway Supermarkets.
- (iii) Spinney - the DC was taking action following the erection of an unauthorised garage and damage to trees.

b. Commons and Greens

Miss Thurston said:

- (i) Harpenden Common - Mr Skeat had complained about TC tidying undergrowth and had been referred to Councillor Harrad. Public interest in the maintenance of wildlife refuges is to be welcomed.
- (ii) Photographs of fungi and autumn tints had been presented by Mr Creighton. Would be useful for exhibitions.
- (iii) Urban Wildlife survey - the Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust are instigating the survey to supplement information already available on the Common and surrounding countryside. The Society's help had been offered.
- (iv) January Newsletter - new reportings of foxes in gardens at Beesonend.
- (v) Footpath - reports of padlocked gate on path from Meadway across Grove Farm to Pipers Lane. Mrs Wang to investigate.
- (vi) Nicky Way - public protests re erection of high close-boarded fences to within 5 feet of the centre of the path, on both sides, near Ambrose Lane, following sales of land to adjacent householders.

The DC regulations regarding width have been contravened, Harpenden's Councillors were unaware of the sales and the sale proceeds have not been used for maintenance.

It was agreed that Miss Thurston would draft a letter of protest to the DC and alert the Press.

c. Plans

Mr Matthews reported that since the last meeting the DC received 33 applications relating to Harpenden of which 19 dealt with extensions, porches, etc. The Society had made 15 responses.

It was noted that the Crabtree Lane development application had been rejected.

It was noted that Bovis had submitted a completely new plan for the Sun Lane site which appeared to be a retrograde step contrary to DC policy.

It was noted that the leader of the Crabtree Lane Action Group had been reported in the press as commenting that it may be time for a Harpenden Action Group to co-ordinate expertise in the battle for conservation.

Lady Bawden asked if there were any criteria for development in Conservation Areas. Mrs Godfrey said that a higher standard of design was required to enhance or conserve.

d. Transport

Mr Kemsey-Bourne said

- (i) Car park charges - the Society's letter of protest regarding increases would be discussed at the Planning, Highways & Works Committee meeting on the 22nd February.
- (ii) Public meeting - the meeting on 2nd February about the by-pass situation had been attended by over 250 people. Local newspaper reports had concentrated on the Western route taking Rothamsted land, ignoring the point that there are other Western ^{options} operations. It was agreed that Mr Kemsey-Bourne would write to the DC to ^{local press} highlight the other options.

e. Events

Mrs Godfrey said that forthcoming events were

AGM	14th March, 1989
Joint meeting with RSPB "Birds in Harpenden"	25th April, 1989
An afternoon meeting to be arranged.	late May

A provisional booking had been made with Herts Farming & Advisory Group for a ^{talk about} visit to the link farm (Cross Farm).

Suggested topics for future meetings

Bramingham Wood Project
The Local Corps of Volunteers

District Council

Proposals for and problems of, Harpenden

It was agreed that the autumn meetings would be held early in October, November and December.

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ENVIRONMENTAL EXHIBITIONS

(i) Environment Week

To be held in the Library, the theme to be photographs of locations nominated for the Society's plaque and certificates.

(ii) 'Harpenden Now'

Following a meeting with representatives of the Photographic and Arts Clubs, the following arrangements had been made:-

Paintings and photographs to have been produced within past twelve months.

Date - half term Spring 1990

Paintings to be for sale.

Postcard competition for photographs.

Venue - Methodist Church schoolroom.

Cost of Room - 1990 Estimate of £150

Entry fees - for paintings

Screens - £1 for screen available from Adult Education Centre.

Publicity - as much and as soon as possible.

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SOCIETY AWARD/ENVIRONMENT CERTIFICATE

Mr Ward said that nominations for both the Award and Certificates were being received.

Mrs Wang produced a draft of the new Environment Certificate. It was agreed that this should be re-produced on quality paper/card.

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DEFINITIVE RIGHTS OF WAY

Mrs Wang said she had written to the CC regarding the inadequacy of their new ^{definitive map} publications and had received the reply that many paths could not be recognised because of objections.

Mrs Wang said that she had written again to explain that many of the paths omitted were on land owned by local councils. Copies had been sent to TC, DC, CC and the Ramblers' Association. It was hoped to arrange a meeting.

BATFORD SPRINGS

Mrs Wang said that after she had informed Dr Leslie Alan Williams that the Society could not afford his travelling expenses, the Polytechnic had agreed to meet these costs. This offer had been accepted gratefully.

Mr Simms said that a new, young etymologist from Rothamsted, Arthur Austin, had expressed interest in the site.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

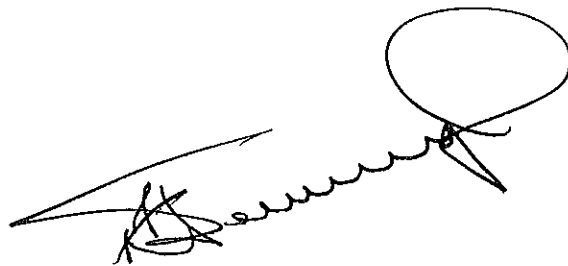
The Secretary reported that, apart from Mr Mellody, all committee members had expressed their intentions for the coming year. Mrs Godfrey and Mr Kemsey-Bourne did not wish to be nominated.

Two nominations, Mr Reginald Margereson and Mr M. Copas had been received.

The Treasurer and Vice Chairman had expressed their willingness to serve again and Mrs Suitters was happy to be nominated as Secretary.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was called for Wednesday, 8th March, 1989 at which the main topics would be the Environment Awards, the Annual General Meeting and the Public Meeting to follow.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Simms', with a large, loopy flourish at the end.

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee

held at

The Day Centre, Harpenden

on Wednesday, 11th January, 1989

Present: Mr L.J.G. Matthews
Mrs M. Waldren
Miss J.M. Thurston
Mr A.G. Simms
Mrs M.J.M. Clitherow
Mr R. Bardner
Mr K. Kemsey-Bourne
Prof. C.W. Miller
Mrs B. Suitters
Mr K.P. Jennings
Miss I.M. Leek
Mrs A. Godfrey

In Attendance: Lady M. Bawden
Mrs L. Wang

Apologies were received from Mr I.D.G. McNicoll, Mr M. Vincent and Mr E. Ward.

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MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6th December, 1988 were approved as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:-

Minute 316(f) to read "Mrs Wang said she had heard via the TC that re-development of the site was not envisaged.

317(e) second paragraph to read "Regarding the appeal to the DOE, the Society had supported the DC in its refusal to allow the demolition of 11 Milton Road".

final paragraph to read "Lady Bawden said that despite earlier applications for 5, 3 and 1 dwellings respectively having been turned down, one bungalow was allowed after appeal. New plans for 13 dwellings at the rear of 1-7 Crabtree Lane have been submitted and the poor access is unchanged".

MATTERS ARISINGa. Batford Springs (Minute 316d)

Mrs Wang said Dr Williams had replied that he had not yet visited the site; would like to meet Mrs Wang in the Spring; would require five visits; would waive consultancy fees; would require travelling expenses totalling £69. It was agreed that Dr Williams be informed that the Society was unable to meet his costs and could not proceed. Expenses to be reimbursed if first visit had occurred.

Mr Bardner suggested looking for another local society that would be interested in the topic.

b. St. Albans Civic Society (Minute 316e)

The Secretary circulated the dates of future meetings to the Committee.

c. 6 Amenbury Lane (Minute 317e)

Mrs Wang said that the DC had replied that no action could be taken although the building is within the Conservation Area as it is not listed.

d. Events 1989 (Minute 317f)

Mrs Wang said the sub-committee would meet on the 19th January. Representatives of the Photographic Society and Arts Club and Mr Meadows had been invited. Mr Meadows had said that, although he was happy to co-operate with regard to the photographic aspects of the arrangements, and to serve as a photographic judge, he did not wish to serve on the committee.

The cost of the School Room, Methodist Church, for two days and one night during 1989 was £108.80. The Chairman asked Mrs Wang to seek the Treasurer's comments.

e. Re-cycling (Minute 319)

The DC had approved use of the Bowers Way car park once a month on Sunday morning for the collection of drink cans. There was no objection to prior advertisement on the site. The Herts & Middlesex Trust had been notified and asked for written guidelines. Mrs Wang to report further.

f. Correspondence (Minute 318)

Lady Bawden said that Carol Margereson had not contacted her to date.

g. Definitive Rights of Way Map (Minute 320)

No action to date.

GROUPSa. Transport

Mr Kemsey-Bourne said that the Public Meeting to be held on the 2nd February would take the form of a factual reporting session on the Harpenden Traffic Study by the County Council.

Arrangements to date included the showing of photographs of local terrain and charts extracted from the Study; the presence of Councillors Tarry and Hudson, a representative from the DC Planning Department and from Rothamsted Experimental Station. The Traffic Engineer of the County Council and a representative from the Countryside Management section of the CC had been invited also.

It was agreed that this meeting should take the usual form of an open meeting to which visitors are admitted. The Secretary asked Mrs Godfrey to check fire regulations with regard to numbers in the hall.

Mr E. Ward to be asked to Chair the meeting.

Mr Kemsey-Bourne was asked to convey the Society's dismay at the DC proposals to increase car parking charges.

b. U.L.V.G.

Mrs Wang said that she was in contact with the Group.

Thames Water have taken action against weeds choking the Lea.

c. Southdown

Mrs Clitherow said

- (i) the DC had replied that it was in December 1987 that they decided not to proceed with a footpath along the edge of the green nearest to the supermarket and that the posts had been re-sited. Clarification was being sought.
- (ii) Mrs Mills had responded that the question of litter bins in bus shelters would be addressed when the situation generally in Southdown was reviewed following completion of plans in the central area.
- (iii) she had discussed the condition of the car park with the manager of Gateway supermarket. It was understood that his HQ would provide lidded skips in the delivery area and a sweeping service twice a week. Mrs Clitherow had written to the Head Office to ask when the service would start.

Mr Jennings said that he understood the DC were to inspect and assess the problem.

- (iv) the video shop had ceased trading thus alleviating the litter problem.
- (v) the tree stake had been removed and given to the U.L.V.G.
- (vi) pruning of shrubs had increased visibility at the bottom of Cravells Road and the condition of the plants.

d. Commons and Greens

Miss Thurston reported:-

(i) TC Committee -

1. Groundwork Trust belief they are to manage Nicky Line appears to be a misunderstanding with DC. Said to be going out to contract, but no action as yet.
2. newly-planted, unauthorised monkey puzzle tree on golf course removed
3. ponds - a cage being built to hold straw bales in oil filter to prevent breaking-up and facilitate removal.
 - grids on inlet under Bull Road cleared by TC. CC have keys for grids' removal.
 - aim to have top pond cleaned out during 1989.
4. Harpenden sign refurbishment soon to be completed.
5. Station Road/A1081 roundabout due March 1989.
6. Station Road pedestrian crossing completion planned.
7. Town Ranger commenced duties 6th January.
8. Sewer and standpipe used by fairs have been checked.
9. Stopping-up order on Kinsbourne Green effective 18th January, 1989.

10. BP being asked to check effectiveness of herbicide used to control weeds on Nicky Line footpath.
11. DOE permission for exchange of common land in conjunction with development of 2 High Street expected soon. Recommend delay tree replacement until development nearing completion.
12. DC funds available for replacing trees. Suggested Gilpin Green and Alzey Gardens.
13. Next Meeting 27th February, 1989.

- (iii) TC and Golf Club have co-operated to re-site some young gorse bushes.

The Chairman undertook to write to Mr D. Weston upon his retirement to express the Society's appreciation of his work.

The Chairman undertook to write to Mr J. Wade to welcome him to his new position of Town Warden.

The committee discussed the confusion reigning over the management of the Nicky Line and the sale of adjoining land.

Mr Simms said he would express the Society's thanks to Janet Brind for her contribution to the Newsletter.

e. Plans

Mr Matthews reported that since the last meeting the DC received 39 applications relating to Harpenden of which 22 dealt with extensions, porches, etc. The Society had made 9 responses.

A member had questioned whether planning permission was necessary for external floodlighting and had been referred to the DC.

Lady Bawden said that with regard to the proposed Crabtree Lane development she would be sending a resumé of the historical site planning applications/permissions to the DC.

Miss Leek asked if the Society had any pre-conceived views regarding future development of Conservation Areas, bearing in mind the piecemeal changes evident in Milton Road. It was noted that the Society had no pre-determined policy and that each development application was dealt with separately.

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SOCIETY AWARD/ENVIRONMENT AWARD

A sub-committee for 1989 judging was formed to consist of:-

Messrs Curl, Vincent and Ward and Mesdames Godfrey and Clitherow.

The Secretary to send nomination forms to the sub-committee Chairman, Mr E. Ward.

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MEMBERSHIP

Memberships at 31st December, 1988 totalled 668 of which 68 were new, 32 resulting directly from the new leaflet.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Chairman asked the Committee members present if they wished to stand again for the coming year. Mr Kemsey-Bourne and Mrs Godfrey said they did not wish to be nominated.

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POSTER BLANKS

Mrs Godfrey was asked to obtain a new supply in green, printed black, size A4.

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RECYCLING

Mrs Wang suggested the Society should compile and publish within the Newsletter a list of local organisations. Mr Bardner agreed to commence the task.

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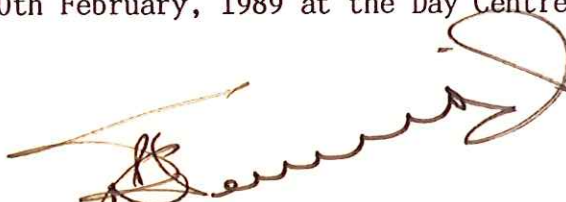
NEWSLETTER

The Committee expressed its appreciation to Mrs Waldren for her hard work as Editor.

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NEXT MEETING

Friday, 10th February, 1989 at the Day Centre.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'R. S. ...', written in a cursive style.