

**THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at The Friends Meeting House**  
**MINUTES**

---

1. **Present:** Chris Marsden (CM), Phil Waters (PhW), Ron Taylor (RT), Helen Clothier (HC), Jan Smith (JS), Alan Bunting (AB), Harry Downie (HD), John Lowe (JL), John Davis (JD), Penny Ayres (PA), Mike Waddilove (MW), Pauline Waddilove (PW), and Bob Fletcher (RF).
2. Apologies for absence were received from Donald Robertson (DR), Alan Jackson (AJ), John Harris (JH), Tim Riley (TR), and Victoria Evans (VE).
3. Minutes of the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016, previously circulated, were approved as a true record.
4. **Matters arising not on the Agenda**
  - (a) It was reported that a meeting had been held with the four ladies who organise the “Mum’s Guide to Harpenden”. It was agreed that the two organisations would co-operate with the Mum’s Guide being willing to host information submitted by the Society.
5. **Treasurer’s Report**
  - (a) HD had previously circulated the current accounts. There were no comments on the accounts.
6. **Secretary’s Items**
  - (a) It was reported that 11 representatives from Sports organisations had accepted the invitation to speak at the 22<sup>nd</sup> September public meeting. It is hoped that Cllr. Annie Brewster will also attend towards the end of the meeting.
  - (b) It was agreed that the focus for the 20<sup>th</sup> October public meeting will be the Arts & Leisure facilities in Harpenden. RF will circulate the current list of organisations to be invited to participate. Committee members to comment on this list asap. **Action: RF**
  - (c) For the December meeting it was agreed we will ask the new Town Clerk to present his plans for Harpenden. CM to contact Carl Cheevers on his return from holiday in 2 weeks time. **Action: CM**
  - (d) A discussion took place on the possibility of offering corporate membership. RF will explore this and report back. **Action RF**
7. **Chairman’s Items**
  - (a) It was reported that the SLP seems to be in serious trouble with the initial report from the Inspector questioning if the duty to co-operate had been discharged correctly and also whether sufficient attention had been given to the improved infrastructure that would be needed to support the proposed plan. PW will attend the initial hearing that is being held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October. The public can’t participate but it will be possible to ask questions at the end of the meeting.
  - (b) The chairman reported that he had had a very successful initial meeting with the new Town Clerk (Carl Cheevers).
8. **Membership Secretary’s Items**
  - (a) JS reported that membership was basically stable with 973 members.
  - (b) There was a debate about the time it takes for the distributors to get the newsletter out. It seems as if the autumn edition of the newsletter is prone to delays as many distributors take a holiday in September (after the school holidays). Also this year the autumn edition came out slightly early.
9. **Newsletter Editor’s Items**
  - (a) The Newsletter Editor reported that his second edition had been well received. It was agreed that articles covering the history of Harpenden were interesting and should continue.

10. **Publicity Officer's Items**

- (a) The Publicity Officer's report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.

11. **Working Group Reports**

- (a) **Community Safety:** The Public Order working group's report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.
- (b) **Environment:** The Environment report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. JD reported that there were still many complaints about aircraft noise. One issue is that the flight oaths have been narrowed to reduce the number of people affected but the consequence of this is that those people that are affected are affected much more. JD will be attending a meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> October to represent the Society.
- (c) **Transport:** The Transport report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. It was reported that the Harpenden Hopper (2 small buses circulating Harpenden) is being launched this Sunday (25<sup>th</sup> September)
- (d) **Education & Leisure.** Nothing to report.
- (e) **Health & Social Welfare.** The Health & Social Welfare working group's report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.
- (f) **Built Environment.** The Built Environment report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. PW reported that Rothamsted were promoting a site near to Townsend Nurseries for housing development.
- (g) **Economic Activity.** RT reported activity has started on a Christmas campaign.

12. **AOB**

- (a) None.

13. **Dates of the next meetings:**

**Committee Meeting dates:** 8 Nov (note change), 23 Jan 17, 20 March 17

**Speakers meetings:** 20 Oct, 8 Dec, 26 Jan 17, 23 Feb 17, 20 April 17 (AGM)

14. The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.