

**THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Monday 12th May 2014 at 7.30 p.m. at Quaker Meeting House**  
**MINUTES**

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**Present:** Chris Marsden (CM), Anthony Steele (AS), Eric Midwinter (EM), Ron Taylor (RTa), Mike Waddilove (MW), Tim Riley (TR), Penny Ayres (PA), Victoria Evans (VE), Harry Downie (HD), Donald Robertson (DR,) and Bob Fletcher (RF).

1. Apologies for absence were received from Caroline Fleming (CF), Alan Jackson (AJ), John Harris (JH), Helen Clothier (HC), Ann James (AJa) and John Davis (JD).
2. Minutes of the meeting on 24th March 2014, previously circulated, were approved as a true record.
3. Matters arising not on the Agenda:
  - a) The meeting to discuss alternative ways of fund raising has not yet taken place. Action carried forward. **Action CM.**
4. **Treasurer's Report**
  - a) HD reported that a draft budget for 2014 had been circulated prior to the meeting. The budget indicates that we are heading towards an overspend of about £1K for 2014 which can be covered from our reserves.
  - b) HD reported that he has re-organised the membership database to make it easier to apply for the Gift Aid. Gift Aid has not been applied for as yet but this is in progress.
5. **Secretary's Items**
  - a) The topic for the 25<sup>th</sup> September public meeting could be the Red House (this will be clearer after the next Red House Forum meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> June) or about the new Care Centre proposed to replace James Marshall House.
6. **Chairman's Items**
  - a) CM reported that the email invitation to the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> June at Rothamsted to discuss the Strategic Local Plan had been distributed to members.
  - b) CM reported that the Award Ceremony to present the Society's plaque to the Harpenden Common Golf Club would take place at 7.30pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> May.
  - c) CM reported that he has a meeting with Peter Lilley on the 16<sup>th</sup> May. The topics for discussion will be the Strategic Plan, The Red House and the airport.
  - d) CM will arrange a meeting to organise the distribution of the Summer 2014 issue of the newsletter as currently there is no membership secretary.
7. **Membership Secretary's Items**
  - a) No report as the new membership secretary is currently not in post.
8. **Newsletter Editor's Items**
  - a) The Newsletter Editor's report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.
9. **Publicity Officer's Items**
  - a) The Publicity Officer's report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.
10. **Press Officer's Items**
  - a) The Press Officer's report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.
11. **Working Group Reports**
  - a) **Public Order:** The Public Order report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.
  - b) **Environment:** JD was not present but CM reported that he would be raising the issue of the airport during his meeting with Peter Lilley.

- c) **Transport:** The Transport report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. When DR has more time after the Meeting House refurbishment work has taken place the working group will investigate the traffic implications of the new primary Free School in Vaughan Road.
- d) **Education & Leisure.** The E&L report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. EM stated that he was planning a meeting of the E&L Pulse Group to discuss issues regarding the type of secondary school that was needed. EM reported that the library volunteer group was up and running well and he is working on producing a press release to describe the successful implementation of the scheme.  
TR described the new Care Home scheme being proposed to replace James Marshall House. It is proposed that this scheme will have community space on the ground floor, including a cafe. It is proposed that this development will have access to the park and the café would be used by visitors to the park.
- e) **Health & Social Welfare.** The Health & Social Welfare report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. EM reported that the next meeting of the Red House Forum was scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2014.
- f) **Built Environment.** It was proposed that Pauline Waddilove and Mike Waddilove, working in conjunction, would take over the Built Environment working group. This was approved by the committee.
- g) **Economic Activity.** RTa reported that two working groups had now been formed by the Harpenden retailers to promote more use of the town's retail facilities..

12. **Any Other Business**

- a) None.

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

**Committee meeting dates:** 14th July, 22nd Sept, 8th Dec, 26th Jan 15, 23rd March 15.

**Speakers meetings:** 12th June (Rothamsted), 25th Sept, 23rd Oct, 11th Dec, 29th Jan 15, 26th Feb 15, 26th March 15

**Other Events:** 14th June (Common Discovery Day), 25th June (Summer Visit).

14. The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.