

THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday 14th July 2014 at 7.30 p.m. at Harpenden Indoor Bowling Club
MINUTES

Present: Chris Marsden (CM), John Harris (JH), Ann James (AJa), John Davis (JD), Anthony Steele (AS), Eric Midwinter (EM), Mike Waddilove (MW), Pauline Waddilove (PW), Penny Ayres (PA), Harry Downie (HD), Helen Clothier (HC), Donald Robertson (DR) and Bob Fletcher (RF).

1. Apologies for absence were received from Caroline Fleming (CF), Alan Jackson (AJ), Tim Riley (TR), Victoria Evans (VE) and Ron Taylor (RTa).
2. Minutes of the meeting on 12th May 2014, previously circulated, were approved as a true record.
3. Matters arising not on the Agenda:
 - a) None.
4. **Treasurer's Report**
 - a) HD reported that the current state of the accounts had been circulated prior to the meeting. The budget indicates that we need approx. £1k of additional income p.a. to cope with the current level of activity and approx. £1K of additional income p.a. for additional activities.
 - b) The meeting agreed that Harry Downie will be the main Society contact for banking purposes.
5. **Secretary's Items**
 - a) It was agreed that the topic for the 25th September public meeting will be "Harpenden Organisations".
 - b) CM will email various Harpenden organisations (Helping Hand, Probus, Rotary etc.) inviting them to give a short presentation on their organisation at the meeting. **Action: CM.**
6. **Chairman's Items**
 - a) CM reported that DRiVe had sent an email to SADC councillors pointing out issues with their approach to the Strategic Local Plan.
 - b) The Strategic Local Plan consultation period is planned to be October/November. It was agreed that the Society should make arrangements for a public meeting in mid to late October. **Action: RF to obtain dates when the Public Hall is available.**
 - c) The next chairman's email will be on the subject of the Strategic Plan.
7. **Fund Raising**
 - a) A meeting on fundraising had taken place (CM, RF and EM attending).
 - b) It was agreed that a fundraising email would be sent out to members.
 - c) Also agreed that local businesses, which were considered not to have a direct interest in development issues, would be approached for sponsorship.
 - d) The fund raising letter would also be included with the next newsletter.
 - e) The need for a fund raising officer was again recognised.
8. **Membership Secretary's Items**
 - a) It was reported that Susan Vintner will be starting in September.
9. **Newsletter Editor's Items**
 - a) The Newsletter Editor's report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.
 - b) PA will include a short report on the successful summer visit to Annables Farm in the Autumn edition. CM thanked PA for arranging the Annables Farm visit.
10. **Publicity Officer's Items**
 - a) The Publicity Officer's report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting.

11. **Press Officer's Items**

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

12. **Working Group Reports**

- a) **Public Order:** The Public Order 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.
- c) **Transport:** The Transport report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. DR reported that the station car park development is on hold because of the change to the rail operator franchise.
- d) **Education & Leisure.** The E&L report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. EM reported that the library volunteer group was running well.
- e) **Health & Social Welfare.** The Health & Social Welfare report had been circulated to committee members prior to the meeting. EM reported that the Red House is now "in the hands of the professionals". He is still optimistic of a successful outcome.
- f) **Built Environment.** Reported that the Society had objected to the installation of a new telecommunications tower and removal of the water tower mainly on the grounds that the plans being put forward were treating the re-development of this site in a piecemeal way. What is required is a complete view of the proposed re-development of this site so that residents can evaluate the complete proposal.
- g) **Economic Activity.** Nothing to report.

13. **Any Other Business**

- a) None.

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

Committee meeting dates: 29th Sept, 8th Dec, 26th Jan 15, 23rd March 15.

Speakers meetings: 25th Sept, 6th Nov, 11th Dec, 29th Jan 15, 26th Feb 15, 26th March 15

- 15. The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.