

**THE HARPENDEN SOCIETY**  
**Extraordinary General Meeting**  
**Thursday 4th October 2012 at 7.30 p.m. in Park Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden**  
**MINUTES**

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**Present:** Chris Marsden (CM), Barbara Ouston (BOu), Eric Midwinter (EM), Ron Taylor (RTa), Richard Thomas (RTh), Mike Waddilove (MW), Bob Fletcher (RF) and Alison Steer(ASt) plus over 70 members.

1. Paper copies of the proposed new constitution were distributed to all meeting attendees.
2. RTh gave a presentation on the new constitution drawing the member's attention to the changes in the objects clause in particular.
3. It was noted that the attendance of 70 meant the meeting was quorate within the current constitution of the 31<sup>st</sup> March 1975
4. RTh gave the meeting the opportunity to ask questions on the new constitution.
5. EM proposed that the updated constitution be adopted by the Society, David Rankin seconded this proposal.
6. Rth stated that the meeting would be approving the new constitution using the powers of amendment in the current constitution of 31<sup>st</sup> March 1975 and section 74 C Charities Act 1993.
7. The proposal was accepted unanimously by the members.
8. RTh introduced Alison Steer and gave a brief description of her public service career.
9. CM stated that Alison has been proposed by the Society's committee as the new president of the Society, replacing Ian Fulton who resigned at the March 2012 AGM.
10. This proposal was accepted unanimously by the members present.
11. Alison stated that she was delighted to accept the nomination to become President of the Society. She stated that Ian Fulton had been an excellent President and that he would certainly be a hard act to follow. She thanked Ian for all he has done over many years for both The Harpenden Society and for Harpenden as well.
12. John Hunt (Vice President of the Society) gave a brief presentation. He stated that when he stepped down from the position of Secretary the Society nominated him as a Vice President in recognition of the service he had given and he very much appreciate that. He stated that this appointment was for life and even though he had moved away from Harpenden, he was, as a Vice President and Trustee, happy to help with the necessary restructuring of the constitution when an emergency arose in the management of the Society.  
Under the present proposals, which take account of the Charity Commissioners' ruling that all members of the management committee are trustees, there is no formal role for the Vice Presidents, who can now attend committee meetings only by invitation. John stated that as he is no longer closely associated with Harpenden it seems inappropriate that he should hold any office and so he requested that he relinquish his lifetime appointment as Vice President and his membership of the Society without any implied disrespect to the Society.
13. CM accepted John's resignation as a Vice President of the society and thanked him for his long and dedicated service to the Society.
14. The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.